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THE TIMES

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Polls show big majority back Shamir government's policy of restraint in face of Scud attacks

Israelis hold their fire after allied appeal

From RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL decided yesterday to hold its fire against Iraq, in spite of the third missile attack that left three dead and 96 injured in Tel Aviv on Tuesday night.

The decision was made at an emergency session of the Israeli war cabinet, after both Britain and the United States had appealed to the country not to retaliate. But officials said Israel's patience had its limits.

President Bush telephoned the prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, after Tuesday's attack to express his outrage at the "unprovoked aggression", to extend his sympathy over the numerous casualties, and to thank Mr Shamir for Israel's continued restraint.

Opinion polls yesterday suggested that an overwhelming majority of Israelis, in spite of their anger, were behind the government's policy of not retaliating against Iraq. But there was widespread disappointment about the failure of the American Patriot defence system to prevent the Scud missile devastating a densely-populated district of Tel Aviv. A Patriot missile had, in fact, hit the Iraqi rocket, it emerged yesterday. But it struck the motor at the rear of the missile and the warhead fell to the ground, destroying a block of flats. "It was almost an intercept," the defence minister, Moshe Arens said. "It was very close. In war you need a little bit of luck and that time we did not have it."

The Israeli commander of the Patriot battery which had fired at the Scud said he was confident that any future Scud attacks would be intercepted effectively. Israel radio said that Israeli crews were operating the Patriots, with American crews advising them. The firing and targeting were under Israeli control.

Last night, air raid sirens sounded near Tel Aviv, but officials said it had been a false alarm. Mr Arens said he believed the Iraqi missile threat to Israel would last "another two to three weeks".

The Iraqi attacks, designed to draw Israel into the war, have so far only succeeded in cementing a new and cordial relationship between the United States and Israel, without damaging the US-led coalition in the Gulf. Lawrence Eagleburger, the assistant secretary of state, is in Israel with a brief from President Bush to elaborate a "joint co-ordination strategy" over the Gulf. Reports suggest that one aspect of their talks confirms the need for Israel to have allied aircraft identification codes.

Archie Hamilton, the British armed forces minister, said it would be a propaganda victory for Saddam Hussein and an embarrassment for the allies if Israel threw its forces into the war.

However, the Israeli press was yesterday unanimous in suggesting that if its air force was likely to be more successful than the allies in removing the missile threat, it should launch an operation, in co-ordination with America and its allies.

The newspaper *Ma'ariv* said Tuesday's attack had caused more damage and wounded more people than the previous barrages. This focused attention on the central question: "Is Israel capable, one way or another, of doing better than the United States, which has launched thousands of sorties over western Iraq? Do we have methods more likely to eliminate the enemy? If so, practical discussions with the United States concerning an Israeli response to destroy the threat will have to begin."

General Shlomo Gazit, former head of Israeli military intelligence, said Israel and its armed forces were like a "wound spring". They knew with certainty the enemy's military doctrines, arena of combat and fighting methods, whereas the American armed forces were a "clumsy and heavy massive machine" which was less familiar with the terrain and circumstances of the Middle East.

The newspaper *Hadashot* said the Shamir government was "at the most important crossroads the state of Israel has ever faced". It had to choose between eliminating the threat of the missiles and the need not to interfere with the continuing destruction by the allies of Iraq's military infrastructure.

The German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, yesterday promised an immediate £85 million of humanitarian aid to Israel and said he was sending his foreign minister there in a show of solidarity.

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MIKE MOORE

Brigadier Christopher Hammerbeck, of the 4th Armoured Brigade, briefing his commanders before a battle exercise in Saudi Arabia yesterday

Cloud clears to reveal effects of bombing

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE first real evidence of extensive damage to Iraq's military infrastructure after seven days of allied air bombardment was disclosed yesterday as the cloud over the Gulf lifted.

Two chemical weapons facilities have been severely damaged, a quarter of Saddam Hussein's weapons storage sites have been hit, most of the main airfields have been damaged, and most important command and control and communications headquarters have "suffered some damage".

Roads, bridges, railways and supply lines have also been hit, and half of Iraq's oil refinery plants have been damaged, according to British sources yesterday.

Aerial and satellite photographs have shown that in spite of some disappointments, the air campaign has been gradually "degrading" Saddam's military capability. However, only 21 Iraqi aircraft have been destroyed, four of them on the ground. Previous estimates had put the figure at more than thirty, but assessors believe that these included dummies.

Major-General Alex Harley, assistant chief of the defence staff (overseas), said yesterday: "The air campaign rolls forward inexorably. The accumulative effect is steadily eroding Iraq's military capability and its infrastructure." The skies over Kuwait and Iraq were "largely free for the allies".

The proof that the precision bombing has severely damaged Iraq's communications centres is particularly satisfying for allied commanders. There have also been further successes in finding mobile Scud missile launchers. General Harley said that several were discovered on Tuesday.

The allied bombing missions continued yesterday, taking the total number of sorties since the start of the war over 12,000. The Iranian news agency reported a big raid for the second successive day on the port of Basra and an air attack on the oil town of Faw. French, Italian and Jaguars all attacked Iraqi positions and Qatari and Kuwaiti aircraft were also used in raids.

American soldiers engaged enemy soldiers for the first time when an Iraqi patrol crossed the Kuwaiti border. Six Iraqis were taken prisoner in the skirmish.

Baghdad announced that two civilians had captured a British Tornado pilot and handed him to the authorities. He was named as Robert Stewart, and the Ministry of Defence confirmed last night that a pilot of that name had been reported missing after his aircraft was lost on Saturday. Iraq also said that it had moved a number of captured American airmen to strategic sites.

The British government has set up a monitoring service to gather evidence of Iraqi violations of the Geneva convention, after the appearance on Baghdad television of two British airmen. Legal sources at the defence ministry said that if there was sufficient evidence against Saddam or any of his commanders of "grave" breaches of the 1949 convention, they could be arrested under a royal warrant and put on trial in a British military court which would have the power to impose the death sentence.

In the case of the two airmen, Iraq is seen as having breached the convention on three counts: by holding prisoners of war up to public ridicule, by the use of coercion, and by threatening to put PoWs at strategic and economic sites which could be targeted by allied bombers.

Americans sink armed hovercraft

From JAMIE DETTMER ON BOARD HMS LONDON

AMERICAN carrier-borne strike aircraft yesterday attacked and badly damaged an Iraqi tanker, the al-Mutanabbi, acting as a support vessel for armed hovercraft. The attack on the tanker, which was also armed with anti-aircraft guns, came only hours after an Iraqi fast patrol boat (FPB) was disabled by American A6 intruder jets.

A naval spokesman said there were three hovercraft on the tanker's deck. It is believed two were immediately sunk but that the third at first evaded the strike aircraft by hiding under an oil rig. It was sunk three hours later by A6s, two-seater jets that specialise in low-level sorties.

According to an ITN report, the tanker was thought to have been used by the Iraqi military to monitor the approach of allied aircraft after the destruction of its land-based radar systems. Four or five Iraqi FPBs have been engaged and either sunk or disabled in the last few days. A minelayer has also been sunk, or in naval jargon, "splashed". Allied search-and-destroy air missions have been continuing for several days in the northwestern Gulf. Lynx helicopters from the British destroyers Cardiff and Gloucester have been involved in the hunt for Iraqi FPBs.

"The Lynxes are working in co-operation with the Americans on search-and-attack missions in the northern Gulf," Captain Philip Wilcox, commanding officer of the Gloucester, said.

Soviet and Yugoslav-built FPBs form the bulk of the Iraqi navy. At the start of the war, the Iraqis had 30; of these, the seven Soviet-built Osa class boats are considered the most dangerous. Each is equipped with four surface-to-surface Styx missiles.

Iraqi troops 'beginning to defect'

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN DHAHRAN

ONE of America's leading military commentators yesterday flatly contradicted gloomy British army assessments of the prospects of a long war against Iraq and predicted that within less than two weeks the occupying forces in Kuwait would either have turned tail or defected across the border into Saudi Arabia.

In an interview with *The Times*, former paratroop Colonel David Hackworth, the most decorated living American soldier, claimed that demoralised Iraqi troops were already beginning to defect across the border "like melted butter on a piece of toast".

The wiry ex-soldier who was the youngest colonel in Vietnam (he resigned over the debacle there after serving for five years) has been based in Saudi Arabia for the past month. His controversial assessment was based partly on visits to the border this week and briefings from Kuwaiti special forces who have been operating behind Iraqi lines. Much of his optimism arises from his knowledge of the effect of B52 carpet bombing on dug-in troops, the tactic now underway in earnest against the Iraqis.

"I do not know if a ground attack will even be necessary. I am that optimistic. No force can take the beating that is being administered now," he said. "This little place is not Normandy. This is a ... sand box 80 miles long and 80 miles wide and the Iraqis have no air capacity. So they have all the 2,000 allied aeroplanes punishing them. It is like a giant is standing up in a sand box whose purpose is to kill the ants in the box with a sledgehammer: he is just pulverising them with no way to stop it. I have seen the effect of B52 raids on Vietnamese soldiers, and here we have the Iraqi soldiers nailed down; it is not like the jungle.

"The planes carry 52 1,000 lb bombs, each one capable of blowing a hole 50 ft wide and 36 ft deep in hard dirt. In the desert, that shock wave carries up to 500 yards and if you are anywhere in that distance, you are either going to be a raving idiot or dead."



Hackworth: ground attack may be unnecessary

Although Colonel Hackworth's views run directly counter to those of Brigadier Christopher Hammerbeck, joint commander of the British Desert Rats, who said this week that a war could drag on to Easter, they hold respect because he predicted in April 1971 that the North Vietnamese flag would be flying over Saigon four years later — as it was.

Countering the brigadier's pessimism, expressed to reporters close to the front line, Colonel Hackworth told me: "I have profound respect for the British professional soldier. However, soldiers have been known to get it wrong and they certainly proved that in the (western) desert until

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INSIDE

Rail subsidy may be kept

The government subsidy for Network SouthEast, currently running at about £90 million a year, may have to continue "for much longer than expected", Roger Freeman, the public transport minister told a transport conference in Birmingham ..... Page 24

Wings clipped



The English management came down hard on David Gower (above) and John Morris with £1,000 fines for their sky-lark during the England-Queensland game ..... Page 34

Fatal mistakes

Mistakes in hospitals lead to the deaths of 2,000 accident victims a year, a group of doctors reported ..... Page 9

Opt-out bonus

Some schools that have opted out of local authority control are being given more money for improvements than those that stay in council control, said Tim Eggar, the education minister ..... Page 11

Student trial

The student who led the big demonstrations which culminated in the Tiananmen Square killings in June 1989, went on trial in Peking yesterday charged with propaganda and agitation ... Page 12

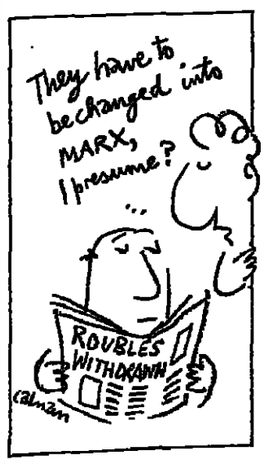
ICI blow

The threat of closure hangs over Britain's biggest agricultural fertiliser business after the Monopolies and Mergers Commission rejected plans by ICI to sell to Kemira, of Finland ..... Page 25

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New roubles for old: a Russian pantomime



From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW awoke to a cold and misty dawn yesterday, to find that the president had given three hours' notice that the highest denomination rouble notes were to be withdrawn from circulation. From yesterday, 50 and 100 rouble notes, equivalent to £50 and £100 respectively, had no official value.

At midnight on Tuesday, telephone switchboards across the country were jammed as friends and relatives compared emergency tactics. Moscow's telegraph office ran out of telegram forms, and panicked individuals rushed through the frosty streets in the dark to book their places in the morning queues.

The announcement was made by a grim-faced television newsreader at 9 pm. The notes became worthless at midnight. People then had three days to change their money at banks and post offices, or lose it. The race was on to beat the system.

Yesterday morning, the clarity of the evening's announcement gave way to chaos. Police stood guard at savings bank offices besieged by frantic noteholders, mostly pensioners. Many had little idea what was going on, except that — as so often in their lifetime — it was bad. There was little anger, only resignation; yet another cross for the overburdened Russian to bear.

The deputy head of the state savings bank was called to take part in an emergency phone-in on Moscow radio. Yes, he said soothingly, it was hardly realistic to expect the exchange process would be completed within three days "in our conditions". Yes, there would have to a "flexible mechanism" to deal with individual circumstances.

The black marketeers, against whom this partial monetary reform was supposedly directed, could breathe again. A "flexible mechanism" is just the sort of thing they like to hear. At the central market, the now invalid notes were changing hands at a rate of two to one — an overnight devaluation of 50 per cent. Someone, somewhere, had established the channels to launder the obsolete notes.

The bank official's "flexible mechanism", however, was intended for quite different circumstances. What, he was asked, would happen to the hundreds of roubles carefully accumulated by old people to pay for a decent funeral?

The president's decree permits the working population to exchange the equivalent of their monthly salary up to

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SALE

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BATTLE TACTICS

Allies tackle challenge of chemicals and bunkers

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

APART from planning the land offensive and pursuing the air campaign, allied commanders have to consider two vital questions: how to respond if Iraq launches a chemical or biological attack, and how to penetrate the reinforced-concrete underground bunkers which are protecting President Saddam Hussein, some of his aircraft, and his nuclear, chemical and biological research projects.

In spite of a vast array of intelligence on Iraq's military capabilities, there is still no firm evidence that Saddam has succeeded in developing an effective chemical warhead for his Scud missiles. Yet this is the issue upon which the direction of the Gulf war depends. Israel, a potential target for a chemical attack, is now convinced that Saddam has the capability. The West is not sure.

Technically, it seems unlikely that the Iraqis have a system guaranteed to reach its target with any degree of confidence. According to some experts, a Scud armed with a chemical warhead would so alter the balance of the missile that its ballistic trajectory would be impaired severely.

One expert said: "The Scud began as a battlefield weapon. Its range was extended in the Scud-B variant, and again in the Iraqi modifications (the longer range al-Hussein and al-Abbas). To increase range, you replace warhead mass with fuel. So the centre of gravity has already moved back, probably as far as it can go."

Poison gas or a bacterium-carrier is light, so that it can disperse on the target. The Iraqis would have been forced to redesign the missile in order to get the right balance. Also, the longer-range Scuds hit the target at about a mile a second. This raises the temperature of the missile, and everything in it, by at least 300 degrees Centigrade. "Few known toxins will survive," the expert said.

The other ways of delivering chemical warheads, by aircraft or artillery fire, are proven, although there are risks attached. Were Saddam to order his aircraft to hit Israel with chemical bombs, Iraqi pilots could fly over Syria or Jordan, raising the possibility that allied aircraft would have to intercept the Iraqi bombers over Jordanian air space.

If Saddam escalates the war by resorting to chemicals and nerve gas, it is not clear how the allies would react. But if the response was to be "in kind", there are only three options: a tactical nuclear strike, which has been effectively dismissed by Washington and London; a chemical attack, which would have devastating consequences for Iraqi troops, since they are not as well protected as the allied forces; or a secret weapon such as a fuel-air explosive system — a bomb that spreads fuel vapour in the atmosphere which ignites when mixed with air, creating a blast effect similar to that of a tactical nuclear bomb. American reports three months ago claimed that Iraq might have developed a fuel-air explosive weapon with the potential for demolishing buildings and sucking the oxygen out of the air.

The technology for producing this weapon, however, is so complex that it seems unlikely that Iraq will have developed such a weapon for use on the battlefield. There has been no unclassified evidence in recent years of an American fuel-air bomb project. Early versions, which consisted principally of napalm, were launched by US aircraft during the Vietnam war, but without much success.

Research and development was dropped, but it may have been revived when reports began to emerge in the mid-1980s that the Soviet Union was pursuing this technology. Duncan Lennox, editor of *Jane's Air-Launched Weapons*, said yesterday that the biggest challenge was timing: when the bomb was dropped, exactly the right mix of fuel vapour and air had to be achieved before ignition. "If it's too fuel-rich, it will just burn, and if there is too much air, nothing will happen," he said.

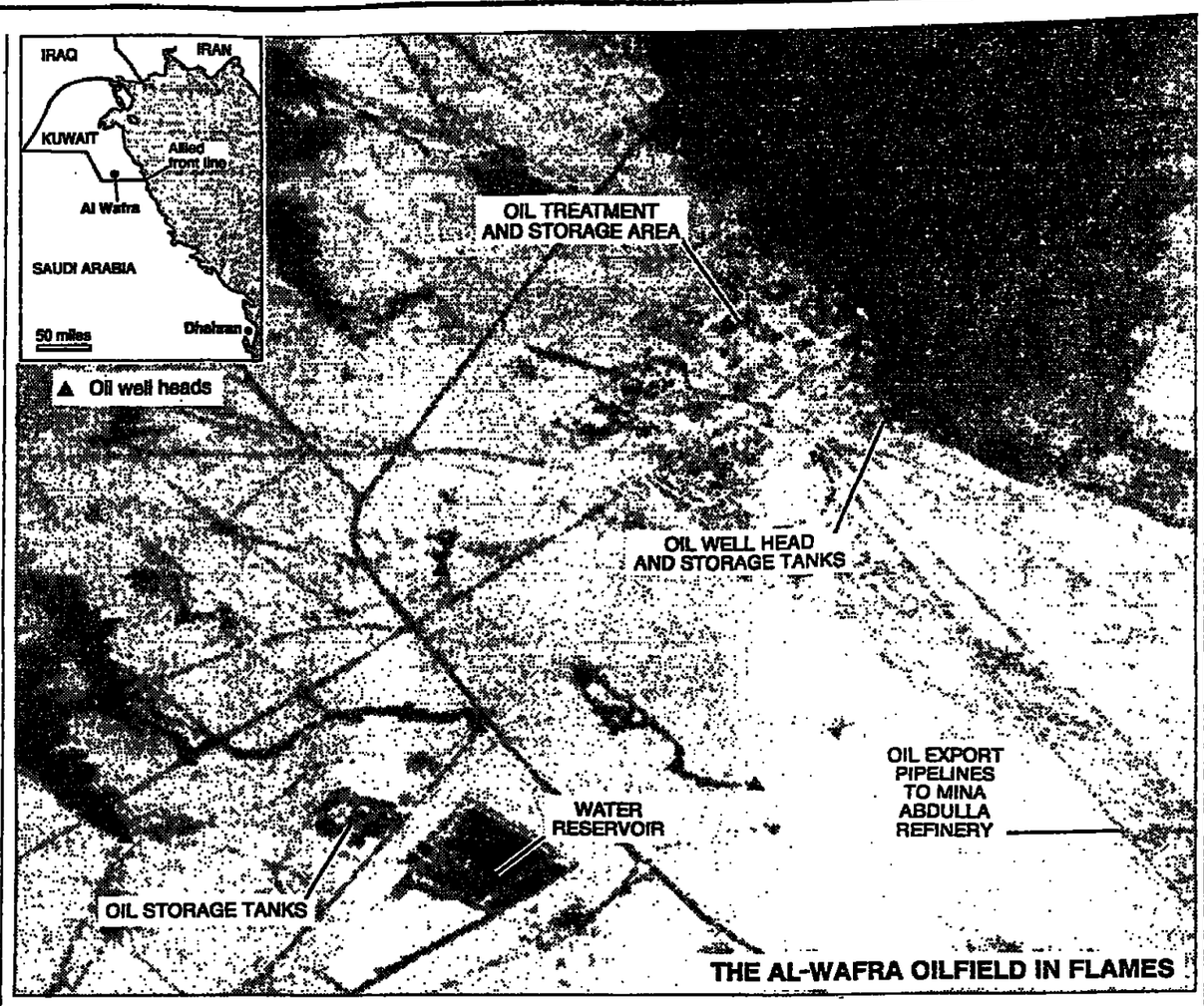
Mr Lennox admitted that if such a weapon had been developed by the Americans, it would have a devastating impact over an area about 500 square metres, sending blast waves through all the Iraqi trenches. "I don't know whether this technology has been mastered by the US," he said.

The huge network of Iraqi concrete bunkers presents a different challenge. There are no non-nuclear warheads capable of penetrating more than about 100 ft down. Some of Saddam's personal war bunkers are known to be about 300ft down, protected by earth and reinforced concrete and resting on special shock absorbers to withstand the "heave" effect of a nuclear blast.

The bunkers built by British and other European companies for the Iraqi leader have so many different layers that the only way to destroy them would be to get a warhead right down underneath the structure before detonation. "You would have to have a rocket-assisted bomb," Mr Lennox said, "but a lot would depend on whether the bunker was surrounded by granite or earth."

As with the attacks on Iraq's air capability, the emphasis will be on containment rather than destruction. "We may not be able to destroy these underground bunkers, but they all have entrances and exits," one military source said. "That's where you have to focus your attention."

Major-General Alex Harley, assistant chief of the defence staff, involved in Britain's Operation Granby in the Gulf, said yesterday: "A lot of effort is being put into this. There are ways of weakening structures and then following in with certain precision attacks."



Burning point: a huge pall of smoke, top right, is shown billowing from the al-Wafra oilfield, between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, after it was apparently set ablaze by Iraqi explosions on Tuesday. The photograph was released by the Pentagon yesterday

OIL FIELDS

Experts study picture of wellhead blaze

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE al-Wafra oilfield, apparently set ablaze by Iraqi explosions on Tuesday, has been shut down since the August 2 invasion of Kuwa t. The ten wellhead valves were closed by operating staff, who were ordered out at gunpoint by Iraqi troops.

Texaco personnel in New York are now studying aerial photographs of the installation, released by the Pentagon. Engineers have yet to confirm whether the smoke billowing from the wellhead sites around the field, sited in the neutral zone between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, are from the valves which were said to have been blown up, or are from decoy fires.

The company has a team in Riyadh, which hopes within the next 24 hours to make a detailed study after more reconnaisance flights. But from the size of the columns of smoke rising from the central part of the field, where a group of production wells are sited alongside storage tanks, it would seem that oil from underground reserves is feeding the flames.

The al-Wafra field is small by Middle East standards and is more similar to medium-sized North Sea fields. It produces around 100,000 barrels per day of high-quality light crude from a reservoir covering a wide area. The wells are drilled straight into the underground reservoir, unlike in the North Sea, where directional drilling from a single production platform is employed to reach the farthest corners of the reservoir.

The field has its own treatment facilities, where oil is separated from gas and sand which gush up from the rock structure. The crude is piped northwards to the Mina Abdullah refinery on the Kuwaiti coast. There it is refined into high-value added by-products. In the past ten years, Kuwait has been investing heavily in downstream petroleum activities to increase the value of its exports of oil.

PROGRESS REPORT

Bush to ease the war fears of nation

From PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush prepared last night for his first public speech since launching Operation Desert Storm, anxious to ease public concerns about the war's progress, the success of the bombing raids and the extent of casualties.

The effects of lack of information may be worse in Washington than shortage of food in Baghdad, according to one administration official. "We have not got the specifics, and that is causing heartburn," said Les Aspin, chairman of the House armed services committee.

According to his advisers, Mr Bush is determined to leave the detailed conduct of the air strikes to his field commanders. To some extent, that means leaving information policy also to the Pentagon.

Mr Bush will, however, decide the date on which the land war starts, and so he needs to know that the country is behind him and what its worries and tolerance levels are. He is said to be increasingly certain that President Saddam Hussein will not be driven from Kuwait without a land assault. The president knows that he must keep "some political powder dry" for when the heavy casualties come.

He has attempted to present an image of studied distance during the first week of Gulf fighting. Yesterday, he allowed his press spokesman to say that he was "frustrated" by lack of information on the success of bombing raids. He intended to show that he identified with the nation's wish to know more about what was going on.

That impression is, however, only part of the truth. Although he has left the decisions on tactics and targets to his military commanders, he is eager for intelligence data about the war. Since the time when he was head of the CIA, Mr Bush has always enjoyed ploughing through fresh reports from the field before the professional interpreters could get their hands on them. Whether this leaves him significantly wiser is a matter of debate. The feeling among Senate aides, briefed on the progress of war, was that the Pentagon had achieved an "information shutdown", which had largely obscured the full picture of events. The bad weather is the official culprit, but congressmen are increasingly concerned that clouds of bureaucratic caution may also be to blame.

The air war is now estimated to need three weeks to achieve what had been originally planned for 10 days. But the White House is advised by the more hard-headed military analysts that air strikes could be continued for months until Iraqi military forces are beaten down to an acceptable level and starved out of Kuwait by cutting supply lines. "If Saddam Hussein is aiming for a long war, we should let him have one and manage the politics accordingly," said one Pentagon official.

Others say that the political and diplomatic management of a lengthy air assault would be too hard, and that if Saddam wants an early land battle, the coalition has no option but to give it to him. "Operation Desert Storm has a momentum which, once lost, will be very hard to regain," said one State Department official.

As Mr Bush sees it, the president's job in wartime is to set the tone for the nation.

WAR IN THE AIR

'The politicians' plane' comes into its own

By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE TORNADO has been called the plane the politicians designed. The designers of the £20 million GR1 fighter-bomber, given the task of keeping Iraq's air force penned in its bunkers, were criticised for attempting too much to meet separate demands from Britain, Germany and Italy, which each build different parts of it.

Twenty years ago, American air force generals looked at the blueprints and said: "It will never get off the ground." As the Gulf war loomed, there was concern that 26 Tornados had crashed in the first seven years of operation with the loss of 19 airmen. Five Tornados have crashed in the Gulf (four lost in combat, one accidentally) and the knives are out again.

Despite this record, critics admit that there is no other aircraft which could have taken on the job given to the Tornados of the RAF and Saudi Arabia — flying fast and low to 15 of the most heavily defended airfields in Iraq and Kuwait. The jet must come in almost at ground level to avoid radar and then climb to the dangerous height of 150ft to drop its JP233 airstrip-denial bombs. Any lower and the parachutes which steady the bombs do not have time to open. Any higher and accuracy cannot be guaranteed.

When the US Air Force was asked to evaluate the JP233, it was not prepared to risk its strike jets in missions it thought too dangerous.

Tornados took on the job and it is now believed that the bulk of runway destruction has been carried out, leaving most of the Iraqi MiGs and Sukhois pinned in their bomb-proof shelters.

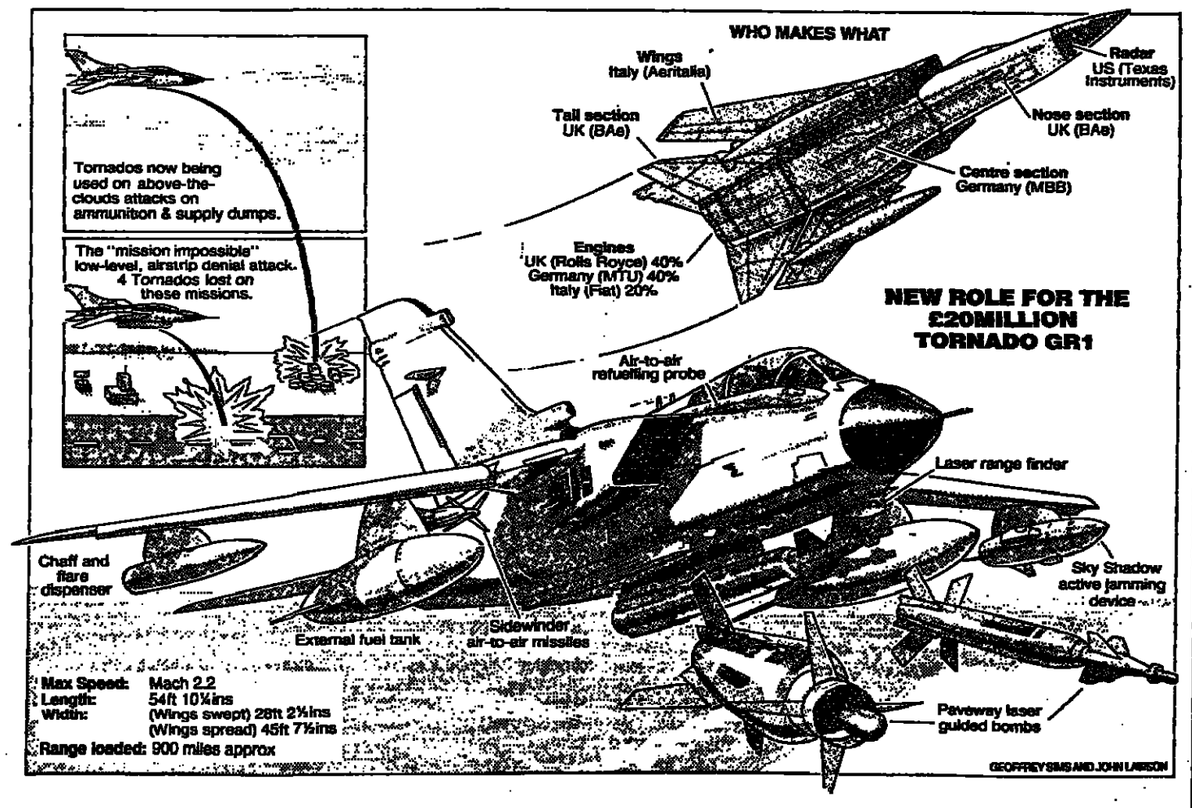
The RAF is switching its attacks to supply dumps and other static targets, bombing from much higher levels, 1,500 to 20,000ft. Tornados are being used round the clock, with ground staff often turning them round in under an hour for another crew.

The aircraft are now being fitted with three kinds of 1,000lb bombs. Each Tornado can deliver up to eight of them. The basic version is a sleeker, more destructive version of free-fall bombs carried by Lancasters during the second world war.

It can be used in safe high-level raids at heights up to 50,000ft, but accuracy is poor. It can be used more effectively, but more dangerously, in dive-bombing attacks. A "toss and turn" tactic can also be used. The Tornado flies in at low level and, about three miles from the target, climbs steeply, releasing the bomb. This is safe but inaccurate.

A retarded version carries a parachute to allow the pilot to escape the scene before it explodes. It is delivered at around 200ft and is more accurate, but the aircraft has to overfly the target within range of ground fire.

The third, safest and most precise version is fitted with the Paveway II laser-guidance kit made by Portsmouth Aviation under licence from Texas Instruments of America. The kit can be strapped to the nose of a standard bomb.



WAR IN THE GULF: DAY 7

ALLIED FORCES

SORTIES: More than 12,000 allied air missions flown since start of war.

LOSSES: Pilot of US Marine Harrier killed when it crashes on non-combat duties. US Cobra helicopter also crashes. Brings American aircraft losses to 14. Takes allied aircraft losses to 21. Twenty-eight allied military personnel now dead or missing, including 14 Americans and eight Britons.

CLAIMS: US Navy strikes Iraqi minelayer, tanker and hovercraft. Iraqi oil production cut by 50 per cent. Iraqi communications and logistical supply lines hit. In first clashes between Iraqi and allied soldiers in desert, six Iraqi PoWs captured on Kuwait Saudi border. Two Americans slightly injured. Thirty Iraqi aircraft destroyed, including 17 shot down, two on Monday. Forty-five Iraqis killed. Britain evolving new tactics for Tornado fighter bombers after five lost in the war. New Tornados sent as replacements. Poor weather interrupts some air operations. Iraqi plant which Baghdad claimed was making powdered baby milk was in fact making biological weapons.

IRAQI FORCES

IRAQI CLAIMS: 400 allied bombs and missiles, which failed to explode, defused and used in counter attacks.
Capture British pilot. Allied planes bomb Iraqi cities, Basra and Faw. Forty-one Iraqis killed and 191 wounded in air and missile attacks in first six days of war. Iraq suspends petrol sales across the country. Turkey will face consequences for allowing allies to strike Iraq from its territory.

ALLIED WAR AIMS

UNITED NATIONS
Security Council resolution 678 authorises Kuwait's allies to "use all necessary means" to uphold previous resolutions calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of its legitimate government. Resolution 678 calls on the nations assisting Kuwait to "restore international peace and security in the area". Under international law the coalition parties have an "inherent right" to come to the defence of a friendly nation like Kuwait. Article 51 of the UN charter says this right can be exercised "until the security council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace of security".

UNITED STATES
Announcing the outbreak of hostilities, President Bush said: "Our goal is not the conquest of Iraq. It is the liberation of Kuwait." He added, however, that the US was determined to knock out Saddam's nuclear bomb potential and to destroy his chemical weapons facilities.

HUNTING SADDAM

German knowhow built snug palace bunker

From IAN MURRAY
IN BONN

BENEATH his ruined palace, President Saddam Hussein can live safely for at least a year with 25 close advisers. This maker's guarantee was given to the Iraqi president by an Augsburg-based construction firm, which in 1981 designed and built his 20,000 sq.ft. command bunker.

Georg Niedermeier, a director of Walter-Thosti-Boswau, which took over the original contractors in 1983, confirmed yesterday that the multi-million-pound complex, next to the former royal palace in Baghdad, was luxuriously furnished so that Saddam could live there in comfort. He said, however, that he could not give details of the bunker, because for security reasons the Iraqis had insisted the plans be left behind when the work was finished.

Whatever the effectiveness of the bunker, more evidence is coming to light of the way in which German companies have helped Saddam to build up his military strength. Yesterday Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, told his cabinet that an offensive had to be launched against this phenomenon, after Jürgen Möllemann, the economics minister, admitted that American and British intelligence services had supplied information that 110 German companies might be involved, though investigations were only going on against nine of them.

German companies have been named in press reports as providing technical assistance or materials for Iraq to build chemical weapons, boosters to give Scud missiles a longer range, and precision-bomb fuses. Most companies named in intelligence reports were not supplying actual military equipment, although the materials might have a potential military use.

Herr Möllemann said that the government was deeply concerned and was drafting new legislation, which would be ready next month, to close loopholes in laws prohibiting the export of war materials.

New technical experts would be consulted, to check that apparently peaceful exports could not be turned into weapons. Individuals in companies would be responsible for guaranteeing that products were not war materials and would be liable to imprisonment if they lied.

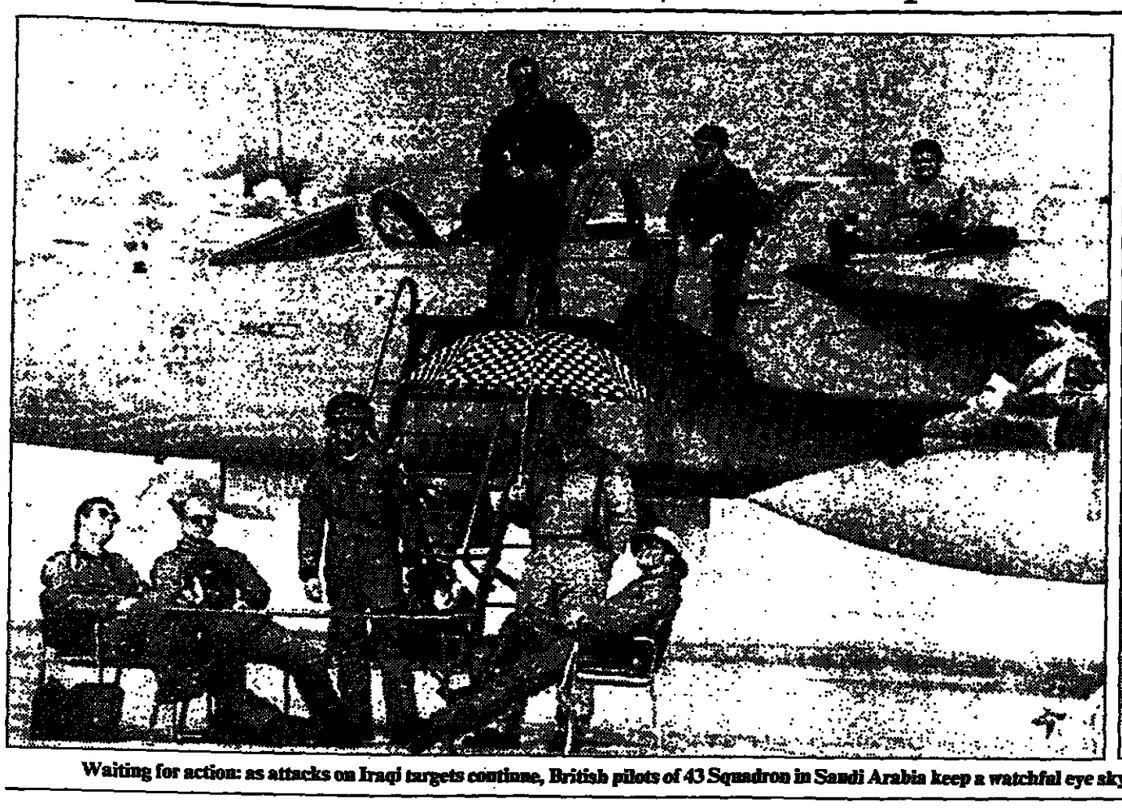
He warned illegal exporters that already they could be jailed for up to 10 years if they break the embargo on sales to Iraq.

The legislation will not be retrospective and cannot apply to companies such as that which built the bunker, of which the German press has been giving detailed descriptions of everything from the toilet to the war conference room. "German quality and precision craftmanship protect the maniac of Baghdad from death," *Bild am Sonntag* reported.

Apparently more than 150 square feet are occupied by the president's vast double bed, protected by a wall of hardened concrete five feet thick, with the strength of 50 feet of normal walling. According to *Bunte* magazine, even if an atomic bomb went off behind the wall the president would feel only a slight jolt.

The magazine has details and pictures of the presidential bomb-proof tiled toilet, leading off the bedroom through an arched doorway. It is claimed to have a closed circuit, self-cleaning water supply as a safeguard against chemical or nuclear attacks: "German craftsmanship," *Bunte* comments.

Correspondents in the war zone report on the progress of Operation Desert Storm





Waiting for action: as attacks on Iraqi targets continue, British pilots of 43 Squadron in Saudi Arabia keep a watchful eye skywards as they try to relax by a Tornado fighter, while in Bahrain soldiers stay within easy reach of a bunker

BAHRAIN

'Ten seconds from tip-in to target, the longest of my life'

From LIN JENKINS IN BAHRAIN

WING Commander Bill Pixton's day begins with an alarm call at 5.30 in the morning. "Your first thought on waking up is to pray for a clear blue day and then it is straight to work. Things begin to get a bit tense during the briefing, and it is not until you have your suit on and the lifejacket and the maps under your arm and the instruction is given that you are to fly, that you really feel the tension.

"Then it is out to the plane and lots of people wish you luck, and see you soon, and they get that look in their eye which means they hope they will see you soon, but you just laugh it off. You remain cool as you settle into the aircraft and concentrate on the job in hand. Once the engine starts it gets a bit sweaty and you form a plan in your own mind of what you are going to do and in the back of your mind check what you will do if you get hit."

The rest is routine. Take-off, radio silence, flying over the sea and waiting to see the border of Kuwait distinctive in the desert sand. "Once you are airborne, you are in a known environment. It is your little office. Now you are on your own."

Wing Commander Pixton, aged 39, leads the Jaguar pilots who do battle against Iraq. He was sitting, nursing a beer and pondering on the incongruity of flying into enemy territory, dropping bombs on Iraq's defences and returning to the comfort of a hotel bar and the non-stop banter of the men under his command.

"It is weird to think we are sitting here having a drink while my mates of the other squadron are going to war. But pehaps the Battle of Britain was like that: they would come back and go to the pub, and there would still be a feeling of normality. We have been trained to sit it out in bunkers, yet here we are, nothing like we expected."

Until he reaches the border, Wing Commander Pixton runs over in his mind how the mission is to be accomplished. "If you miss there is no point in going, that's the bottom line.

"Once you get to the border, which you can see as a line in the desert, you are looking out of the window to see if there is anything coming up at you.

"You just see desert and more desert and a lot of smoke because it is burning quite well out there. By then, you are at the stage that you have got to hit the thing and your main worry is that when you come to release the weapon the damn things don't go because you made a mistake."

As the target comes into view, all thoughts are on hitting it. "Your eyes open to their widest, looking at the target. There are 10 seconds from tip-in to the target and it is the longest moment of your life. You don't see the flak coming up at you; you get told by your wingman that you are being fired at. You log it, and get to it when it is next in the queue, because you still have five seconds to go.

"Actually, that is 20/20 hindsight. At the time, you think: 'Oh shit, but come on — it's nearly time for the bombs to go.' Time seems to stretch and the three seconds you have to lock them on and let go seems an age. It takes 700 milliseconds for the weapons to release, so whole seconds feel like a lifetime.

"It is amazing what you can do up there within a heartbeat. Things than can never have been done in training. Then it is into recovery and you look over your right or left shoulder and see the weapons going off. Then it is get me home, I need to get my little pink body home.

"I have been told I am being shot at, so I thought that out turning my chaff and ECM on and turn around and head for the border as high and as fast as I can. One of the other guys said you just run away bravely. The mach display on the panel turns around and you watch it, but the border never seems to get any closer. Then the leader checks them all in. We are supposed to maintain radio silence, but I don't know of one leader who does not check them in too early. I have decided how we are going to do things and if something goes wrong it is my responsibility."

It is only at this point that he notices the physical effects on him. "You can hardly speak, your mouth is all dry and gluey. The journey home is routine and the emotions of a few seconds begin to fade. Landing brings a sense of relief, a smile and a joke. Once into the debriefing room, nobody can stop talking. "We make sure we take time going over the videos of what we have done and talking it through to make sure we assess it right, before I write my report.

"For all the training to avoid missiles, what has proved the most frightening is gunfire. That is what has really got our attention and to think it is really a prehistoric weapon."

It is then that he begins to wind down, a process completed in the hotel with a phone call to his wife Mary in Coltishall, Norfolk. The peculiarity of modern warfare which enables a Jaguar pilot to ring his wife daily and stay in a hotel between raids is not lost on him.

"The whole thing is crazy — the contrast between the sandbags and the barbed wire at the base and a hotel room. One minute I am in all my kit and about to go and the next I am at the Marine Club in my shorts."

Wing Commander Pixton is the epitome of an RAF pilot, combining good looks, charm and a sharp sense of humour with a calm authority. When he wants to scream or tear his hair out, he does it behind a closed door.

'Guilt' mars homecoming for injured pilot

By ROBIN YOUNG

A TORNADO pilot who was forced to eject over the Saudi desert while leading an attack into Iraq spoke yesterday of his mixed feelings at hearing that his injuries would mean he would be coming home.

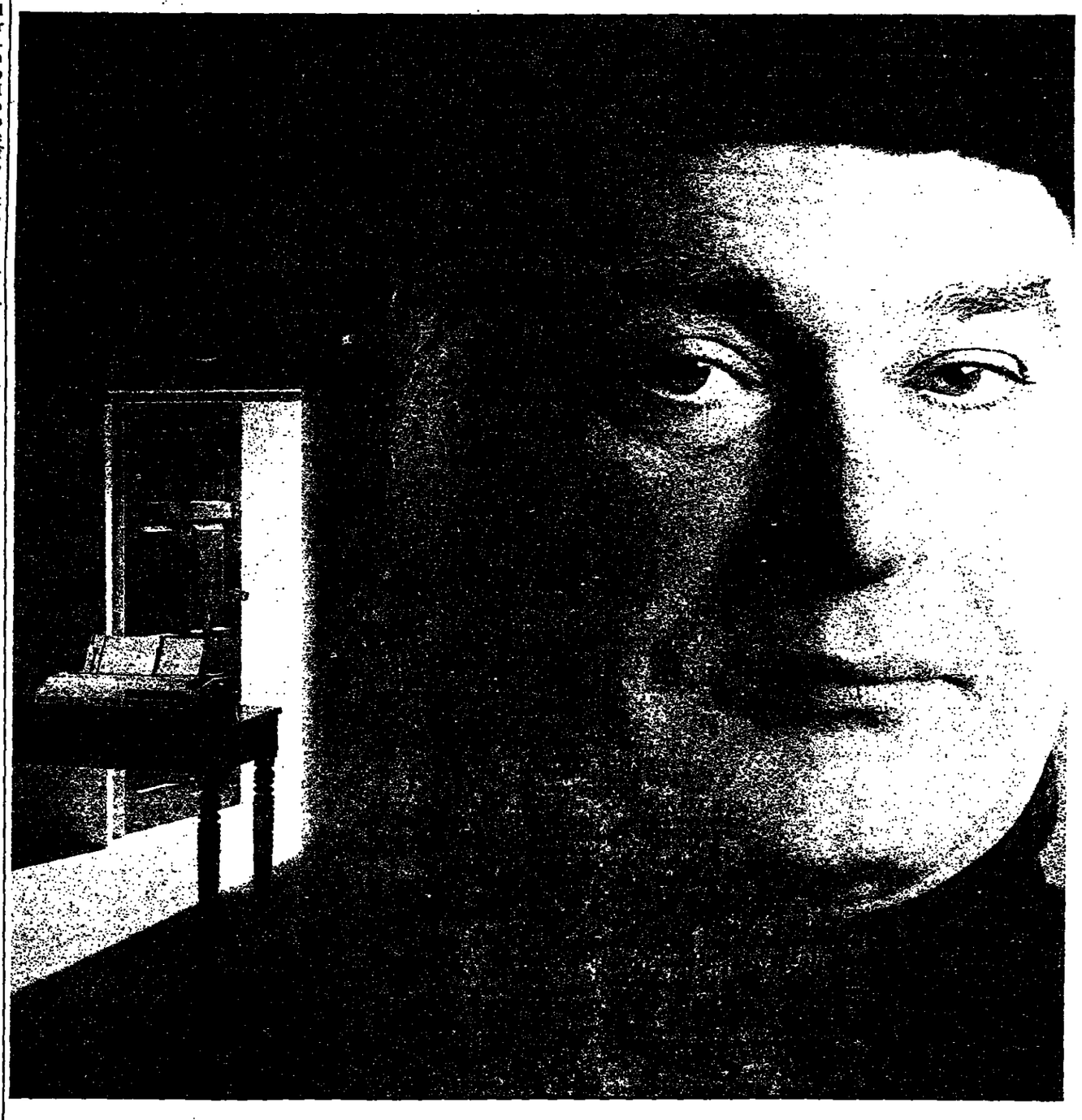
Wing Commander Mike Heath had been filmed by television crews readying his Tornado for take-off. In an interview he had said: "I recognise that it is a high-risk mission, but ... my main concern is that a lot of my youngsters are behind me and I have got to make sure that they get back safely."

Within seconds of take-off, Wing Commander Heath lost full control of his plane through a malfunction. It was impossible for him to land, so fuel and bombs were jettisoned and he and his navigator ejected. Shortly afterwards he was in a field hospital giving a second interview while his men continued their mission.

He said: "It is easy to think that the desert is empty but in fact there are a lot of people living out there, bedouins moving around, small villages and settlements. We had to search carefully before jettisoning our fuel and bombs and taking the decision to abandon the plane. We have had a lot of help and support out here. It would have been terrible to have repaid it by killing or injuring people with the plane.

"For my wife and my kids' sake of course I am delighted that I am going home, but ... I am concerned to be leaving my squadron behind. I have no doubt they will manage without me, in fact the youngsters might say they are better off without me, but ... I feel guilty that I am deserting them."

Frontline doctors, page 19



SAUDI ARABIA

Defenceless RAF tankers keep Tornados on target

From DAVID MASON IN RIYADH

NOT far from the Iraqi border last night, the crew of an unarmed RAF VC10 tanker aircraft received the message they all fear: "Package of bogies up to the north, heading south." An Iraqi fighter attack was imminent.

The tankers come as close as they dare to enemy airspace, to give the RAF Tornados they supply the maximum striking range. It was a false alarm, but pilots fear that an Iraqi fighter may break through allied patrols and head for sitting ducks such as the VC10, a converted civilian airliner.

"I think this comes close to the worst nightmare," said the captain, Flight Lieutenant Keith Hewitt, during the first combat mission on which journalists have flown. "There's absolutely nothing you can do apart from try to evade, in an aeroplane designed to carry people around drinking gin and tonic." It is some comfort that the side-mounted engines might divert a heat-seeking missile from the thousands of gallons of fuel that are carried in the fuselage and wings.

The possibility of attack by enemy fighters is a routine hazard for Flight Lieutenant Hewitt and his crew, Flying Officer Nick Horlock, the co-pilot, Flight Lieutenant Paddy Padmore, the navigator, and Sergeant Steve Arnott, the flight engineer, who are all based at RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire.

Sergeant Arnott said: "This crew was the first RAF crew airborne after H-hour (the launch of the war seven days ago). There were lots of bogies around that night."

The VC10s of RAF 101 Squadron, based near Riyadh, support the British Tornado GR1 fighter-bombers that lead the attack on Iraq's airfields. The front-line refuelling they provide is what enables the bombers to strike deep into enemy territory.

Last night two squadrons of Tornados spent their last minutes in friendly airspace sucking at a flight of VC10s in a nebula of green, red and white lights. "They would consider us as mother, and they are our chicks," said Flight Lieutenant Hewitt. "The crew's relief was palpable when all returned from their raid."

Flying at almost 300mph, a Tornado pilot must inch his plane forward and thrust a probe into a basket at the end of a fuel hose, presenting a pale circle little larger than a dart board.

Nobody needs to be reminded that Britain has lost five Tornados in a week, and all Flight Lieutenant Hewitt will allow himself to say to the Tornado pilots is "take care of yourselves".

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ISRAEL

Nation learns to bide its time under the Scud barrage

From RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELIS are biting their lips and putting up with the barrages and the dread which precede the Iraqi Scud missile night attacks on built-up areas of Tel Aviv.

In part this is because they know that Israel will retaliate in its own way. But it also marks a watershed in Israeli thinking, at least as perceived by the outside world, which on the basis of past experience assumes that the Israelis automatically seek immediate vengeance with biblical wrath. Instead, the newspaper *Haaretz* said yesterday, after the third missile attack, Israel had been "swept by sanity and cool judgment". The message from the government of Yitzhak Shamir and the Israeli army is that Israelis must brace themselves for a lengthy "London Blitz".

Yesterday a few lone protesters stood in the rain opposite Mr Shamir's office in Jerusalem bearing placards accusing him of allowing Jewish blood to be shed. Hebrew newspapers carried colour photographs of the devastation in Tel Aviv, with the bloodstained wounded being taken out of the rubble on stretchers by rescue workers.

But one opinion poll published yesterday showed that 99 per cent of all Israelis approve of the government's policy. This is greater than the support given by Israelis to their leaders in the wars of 1967 and 1973, when Israel's very existence was at stake.

Eighty per cent said they did not want Israel to retaliate straight away. In other words, Israelis, used to hitting their enemies hard, are learning to live with fear, including the fear of a chemical weapons attack, perhaps as President Saddam Hussein's last throw. Even when the air raid sirens go off and people are caught in the street, there is little real panic. Israelis, told to go about their business normally, are complying.

In part this is because they are refusing to play Saddam's game and allow him to drag Israel fully into the war. Israel, after all, is a mature political culture.

Partly, too, it is because Israelis believe the conflict will not last all that long, and they know that Israel is reaping the political and economic benefits of restraint. Of the $13 billion Israel is seeking — and expecting to receive — from the United States in additional aid, $3 billion is for losses of revenue due to the Gulf war, including $30 million for Scud damage, and $10 billion is for the absorption of Soviet immigrants.

None the less, Israelis stand astonished at their own moderation. "Common sense and good judgment have suddenly taken over this country like the fingers of an invisible hand," the commentator Gideon Samet wrote in *Haaretz*.

"It is many years since our frayed nerves were exposed to the screeching noise of attack. But radio and TV broadcasts have been marked by their seriousness and correctness. This is a victory for the right tone of voice."

There are psychological costs involved in adjusting to terrorism waged on a civilian population from the air. Psychiatrists have appeared on Israeli television to advise families on how to cope with stress. "If you think you are reacting normally, you must be abnormal," one psychiatrist observed.

Yesterday people were back on the streets of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, following government instructions to go about their business normally, as the British had done during the second world war.

Even the normal Israeli lack of manners has given way to a wartime fellow feeling, with a polite and solicitous "how are you?" replacing the normally brusque Israeli approach.

"Perhaps many of us taped up in our sealed rooms think angrily about the humiliation Saddam is inflicting on us," Mr Samet said. "To don these ridiculous gas masks and huddle in our own homes is reminiscent of times we thought would never return.

"On the other hand, there is something morally uplifting, even purifying, about knowing that you are in the right. It has taken Saddam's missiles to bring out the best in us".



Raid aftermath: rescuers yesterday combing the wreckage of a building in Tel Aviv which was hit by an Iraqi Scud missile. The Israeli cabinet meanwhile held an emergency session to discuss what measures to take in response to the latest attack on Tuesday night. As the people living in the area of Tel Aviv came to terms with the renewed threat from President Saddam Hussein, some decided that it was time for retaliation (Paul Adams writes from Ramat Gan). At least 70 Israelis were injured in the latest blast, three of them seriously. Another three elderly residents died, apparently of heart attacks. Around 150 houses were damaged by 400 lb of conventional high explosives. Several hundred yards away, windows were smashed and shutters broken. As the cold, damp day dawned, shocked residents returned to their shattered homes searching for souvenirs, before the authorities bulldozed the wreckage of five houses. Pieces of clothing hung from the broken branches of trees. In the mud lay an assortment of personal belongings — a purse, schoolbooks, a clock, a video recorder. "We did nothing to him. Israel is so quiet," said Dror Levi, whose house escaped the worst of the blast. "I want to attack, but the United States is doing it," he said. "If we can do something better, we should." Not everyone is convinced that retaliation is the only path. According to an opinion poll conducted before Tuesday night's strike, 80 per cent of Israelis favoured continued restraint. The government's approval rating, so far, has reached an all-time high of 94 per cent. Mira Berenknof, whose parents came to Israel from Iraq, said she was not looking for personal revenge for the extensive damage to her chemist shop. "I have mixed feelings, because on one side I want them to retaliate and on the other side, I know it will make the war worse." After three nights free from missiles, and with a gradual return to normal life, public restraint was being sorely tested by the latest attack. "They say that after three times, we can't be quiet any more," said Amnon Isbar, the local fire chief who was in charge of the clean-up operation. "But the government will decide how to act. We don't give advice to the government." Mr Levi, though, said he for one knew precisely what he would like to do to the Iraqi leader — kill him.

IRAQ

Pumps off at petrol stations

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

IRAQ has temporarily suspended fuel sales across the country. An announcement by the oil ministry, broadcast on Baghdad radio, said: "With the aim of organising the process of providing the honourable citizens and all of the state's offices with fuel, benzene and gas oil, it has been decided to stop selling at all petrol stations in the country as from the 23rd of January 1991 for a short period."

The ban suggests official concern about fuel supplies in the wake of air attacks and the UN trade embargo which was imposed last August.

Meanwhile, Baghdad's state-owned media said that massive bombardments by the American-led forces had not broken Iraq's will and it was using some enemy missiles which failed to explode in counter-attacks.

"Despite the thousands of aerial sorties and the missile attacks, the Iraqi will has remained unbroken and the Iraqi resistance is unwavering," Baghdad radio said in a commentary. Iraq "has turned the mythical Phantom aircraft and cruise missiles into mundane matters that can be tackled and dealt with militarily through Iraqi-made traditional and technical means," it added.

The Iraqi news agency, INA, quoting a military engineering officer, said that Iraq's forces had defused 400 incoming bombs and missiles and used them against the enemy. "Our brave fighters have succeeded in defusing 400 of the aggressors' bombs and missiles." INA reported the officer telling the newspaper *al-Jumhuriyah*. "He said that many of the missiles were later used in operations against the imperialist aggression."

Baghdad radio, monitored in Cyprus, quoted a foreign ministry spokesman as saying casualties in the allied air strikes included "women, children and elderly in cities and towns throughout Iraq". The spokesman gave no figures. He said allied raids had hit "civilian targets, factories, food and medicine depots, apartment blocks and religious sites ... killing many civilians".

The radio said President Bush "realises that the continuation of battles means more human and material losses among US forces ... and means more coffins will be received by the Americans from Bush's war.

"The American people will soon realise that Bush tried to deceive them and hide facts from them, and that he is leading them to a losing and very costly military mischief — in human, military, and political terms," the radio added.

JORDAN

Husain says his worst fears are beginning to come true

From EDWARD GORMAN IN AMMAN

THE increasing likelihood that Israel will retaliate for Iraqi Scud missile attacks on Tel Aviv has left King Husain facing what he described at the weekend as the "slide towards the tragic, disastrous and the unknown".

"I am very, very deeply saddened to live through and to see my worst fears coming true, or beginning to do so," the king told a news conference, adding that Jordan would nevertheless face the future with a "clarity of vision" and a "sense of responsibility".

Most observers believe the king has determined to do all he can to stop that slide leading to full scale war in Jordan and will risk limited defensive exchanges with the Israeli air force only if Israel repeatedly violates Jordanian sovereignty by flying over the kingdom.

The king and his advisers have been emphasising that Jordan's relatively small army and air force are of limited effectiveness and deployed in a purely defensive manner. It is widely accepted that if Israel can find a way of executing its revenge against Iraq without interfering with Jordan on the way, the king will not intervene.

If, however, Jordan is forced to try to shoot down encroaching Israeli jets, it is likely the king will not allow himself to be dragged into war as a result of those incursions alone. "We don't want a conflict with Israel, but if it is forced upon us, there is nothing else we can do except defend ourselves," said George Hawatmeh, editor of the *Jordan Times*. The previously unimaginable perception is beginning to take hold here that an Israeli strike or series of strikes against Iraq in the coming weeks is now possible within what might be termed a "controlled environment", leading neither to war with Jordan, nor war with Syria or Egypt and consequent damaging splits in the allied coalition.



Husain: has emphasised forces' defensive role

Still the best scenario from the point of view of avoiding uncontrolled escalation of conflict in the region would be for Israel to limit its response to firing its Jericho missiles at Iraq.

King Husain has already said that he defines his air space as that which he can reach and since he has no capability either to detect or stop Jericho or Scud missiles, Jordan could plausibly do nothing while missiles are exchanged above it.

"If we cannot see them, what can we do?" said Mr Hawatmeh. "We are not going to go and attack Israel (as a result of missile strikes on Iraq) — that is what the king means by limited resources."

Intensive American diplomatic efforts to keep Israel out of the war, together with the visit to Amman on Tuesday by Richard Armitage, a special United States ambassador, have increased speculation that the Americans have persuaded Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, that any retaliation must avoid antagonising Jordan and other friendly Arab states.

Scud attacks strain loyalty to PLO

From A CORRESPONDENT IN DUBAI

THE Palestinian, with a hopeless shrug of the shoulders, said despairingly: "My people have always been betrayed ... by the British, by the Israelis, by the Arabs, and now by the PLO as well."

Majid — not, for obvious reasons, his real name — is one of thousands of Palestinians who have been living for years in the states of the Gulf. They have brought up their families there, and many have risen to senior posts in the civil service, or built up successful private companies of their own.

There has been no terrorism and little political agitation in the Gulf — but all the time they have maintained a defiant support for the Palestinian cause: the patriotism of a people without a land.

Now, though, they see their precarious hold on a relatively prosperous life threatened by the war further north, and the bitterness it has engendered throughout the Arab world.

If President Saddam Hussein's missile attacks on Israeli civilians have failed to draw the Israelis into the war, they have certainly produced unspoken bonds of fellow-feeling between Jews and Arabs that neither side would ever have dreamed of.

The Saudis, like the Israelis, know what it is like to come under attack from Scud missiles: the people of the other Gulf states know that only their distance from the Iraqi border has saved them from the same experience.

Their main fear, though, in countries where Palestinian workers vastly outnumber the wealthy locals, is of Iraqi-inspired terrorist attacks and possible anti-government agitation — and their response to that fear has been swift and ruthless.

Some of the most senior Palestinians have been told not to come back from leave — maybe never. Others are being openly challenged by locals to say where their loyalties lie: to the Gulf states, or to Palestine.

Many have been summarily deported in the last few months, and many more placed under strict police surveillance. At least one mullah, whose Friday sermon was considered to be anti-Western and inflammatory, was quietly bundled out of the country.

So for Majid, and people like him, the PLO's support for Iraq has been an unmitigated disaster. Now that the fighting has started, and they find themselves under suspicion as potential fifth-columnists, even people who have lived all their lives in the Gulf feel that they have nowhere to go.

Especially after this week's missile attacks on Tel Aviv, leading members of the ruling families in the Gulf states have started to ask privately why they should be expected to feel antagonism towards the Israelis anyway.

For any Arab, in a group of nations under an immediate threat from Iraq, only politics prevents them from embracing their enemy's enemy in Tel Aviv as an ally. Such attitudes towards the Israelis only increase the hopeless feeling of unease of the vast, peaceful majority of Palestinians. "This has been my home," says Majid, hopelessly. "This is where I have brought up my children. Arafat has killed the PLO and the Palestinians with his support for the Iraqis."

Many local Arabs, though, often resentful at the way they claim Palestinians have worked their way into top jobs and managerial positions, are implacable. "Now is the time to solve the Palestinian question," said one.

TURKEY

Americans alerted after small-scale terrorist attacks

From BILL FROST IN INCIRLIK

AMERICAN military bases, diplomatic missions, businesses and banks across Turkey were yesterday put on "maximum alert" after two terrorist bombings at offices used by American companies in Istanbul.

Just hours after the attacks, Tariq Aziz, Iraq's foreign minister, warned Turkey that it would bear "full responsibility" for allowing the Incirlik air base in the south of the country to be used by American bombers flying missions against Iraq.

In a statement read on Baghdad radio and subsequently delivered to the foreign ministry in Ankara, Mr Aziz said: "A long history of good relations between Iraq and Turkey has been spoiled by this hostile behaviour."

Earlier this week, Baghdad radio broadcast a statement from Saddam calling on Muslims to strike at "the imperialist infidels" wherever they were found.

Just after 9am three gunmen raided the offices of the American Home Board in Istanbul. The board was described as a private educational and publishing charity. They overpowered a guard before tying up staff and planted a small device which damaged one office but left employees unhurt.

Ten minutes later four terrorists, one believed to have been a woman, forced their way into the offices of the American Board of Shipping. They held staff at gunpoint while they planted a bomb. Again the device did little serious damage. One woman, thought to be a Turkish employee, was slightly injured.

Before leaving the offices the terrorists spraypainted a slogan on a wall: "The Middle East belongs to the people of the Middle East."

The second attack was claimed by Dev Sol, a left-wing group active since the 1970s. It was thought the first bombing in Istanbul was also its work.

Two days ago Dev Sol said it had been responsible for the planting of a bomb at the front door of offices used by American military personnel in Ankara. It exploded but caused little damage.

Diplomatic sources in Ankara said yesterday that the group's attack came in direct response to Saddam's call for a holy war against the Western allies. "They are not particularly pro-Iraqi," said one diplomat, "but they are anti-American and bitterly opposed to the government of President Ozal."

Dev Sol is just one of many groups threatening American bases, diplomatic missions and businesses in Turkey. It has a reputation for efficiency. Last year the group was believed to have murdered Hiram Abas, who was the former head of Turkish intelligence.

American military bases and offices used by American civilians have been under the tightest security since Operation Desert Storm began. Service personnel and civilians have been warned that they might be targets.

In an incident last Tuesday, guards outside Nato headquarters in the city of Izmir opened fire on a van being driven in what was described as a "suspicious manner". One man in the vehicle died.

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Sorting fact from fancy over the soaring bills for a high-tech war



Greenspan: attempt to offer reassurance

By ANATOLE KALETSKY AND WOLFGANG MUNCHAU

FOR THE civilians sheltering under the allied defence umbrella, it may be of little consequence that US taxpayers paid more than $1 million for each of the Patriot missiles fired into the night skies above Tel Aviv and Riyadh. But for finance ministers and legislators in the alliance, the astronomical cost of high-technology warfare is becoming harder to ignore.

On Tuesday Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the US federal reserve board, tried to offer reassurance when he rejected the cost "guesstimate" of $1 billion a day which had been gaining currency in the American media. However, his own figure for the air campaign alone of "several hundred million dollars, but probably under half a billion a day" could hardly have been described as good news. America's gross national product in 1990 was about $5,400 billion. The costs of a war lasting 100 days at $500 million a day would be by no means negligible at one per cent of GNP.

Given America's longstanding budgetary problems and the precarious state of its financial system, $50 billion added to the defence budget would constitute a serious burden.

For Britain, whose war costs have so far added up to £450 million, and France, which says it has spent five billion francs (£500 million), the financial problems are far less severe, not only because of their smaller commitments, but also because of the healthier positions of their budgets.

Nevertheless, with the extra costs mounting rapidly — the maintenance of the Gulf force costs Britain £3.6 million a day, excluding lost aircraft and munitions — a protracted war could turn into a serious fiscal headache, especially since tax revenues are dropping steeply as a result of the recession at home.

There are, however, at least three compensating factors. First, the way costs have been presented has invited exaggeration. The billion dollars a day figure widely cited in America was based on a study published on January 16 by the Congressional Budget Office. This added up broad estimates for the various costs involved in war, giving a lower figure of $28 billion and a top one of $86 billion.

The low figure assumed a war which would be over in less than a month, implying a daily cost of $1 billion. The higher figure assumed "both air combat and repeated ground attacks over a period of one to six months". On this basis, a six-month war would cost $500 million per day, but such "economies of scale" have not attracted much attention.

A more important caveat about the headline figures involves the rate at which the money will be spent. In the $86 billion figure, $45 billion or 52 per cent will go on replacing tanks, aircraft and other weapons and munitions used up or destroyed in the fighting. This would be spread over several years, not only for budgetary reasons, but also because America's defence factories cannot produce hundreds of extra missiles and aircraft to short order.

As a result, the burden of the war on the American economy should be no more than $35 billion in the first year, with the rest spread over the next three to five years.

Second, the costs will ultimately be shared not only by the American, British and other taxpayers in combatant countries, but by the rest of the industrialised world. Between them, the industrialised countries have a GNP of around $17,000 billion. Against this figure, the CBO's maximum annual cost of about $35 billion amounts to an almost imperceptible 0.2 per cent.

Attention is naturally focusing on Japan and Germany. Japan agreed this week to provide an immediate contribution of at least $9 billion to the American war effort. In the end, a considerably larger contribution seems certain.

Germany is likely to be the major financial backer. So far it claims to have contributed a total of DM 3.3 billion (£1.1 billion). However, most of the cash payments have gone into economic support for Egypt, Turkey and other "front-line" countries, rather than direct aid for the allies' military costs. This was clearly unsatisfactory for the US and other allied countries and this week the German government has been forced to go much further.

Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, said yesterday that the total costs would be "of a large dimension which we will not be able to finance by normal budgetary means". Although the chancellor refused to be specific on the exact figures, his comments suggest that Germany's total commitment might go up to DM 10 billion or more.

The third reason for reassurance about the war's broader economic impact is that because economic growth was weakening in America and Britain, the spending on the armed forces and replenishment of defence stocks after the war could provide a useful fillip to their economies.

Leading article, page 15

GERMANY

Kohl condemns Saddam and sends £95m to help Israel

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

IRAQ's third Scud missile attack on Tel Aviv yesterday stung Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, into making his toughest denunciation yet of President Saddam Hussein.

The attack also prompted him to send DM 250 million (£95 million) in emergency aid to Israel, along with a goodwill mission headed by Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister. The attack was aimed at the rights of the Israelis to live, "for which we Germans have a special responsibility," he said.

The government is also to send Carl-Dieter Spranger, the co-operation minister, while Hans-Jochen Vogel, leader of the opposition Social Democrats was also to travel to Israel to show solidarity with the government.

At the same press conference the chancellor gave an advance warning to his countrymen that taxes would almost certainly have to rise so that Germany could pay a fair share of the costs of the Gulf war. While he again ruled out any question of direct involvement in the fighting, he made it plain that the nation would have to make a financial sacrifice and that tax increases were the likeliest way of finding the money.

The chancellor refused to say how much money Germany would contribute but said it would be too much to finance by normal budgetary means. Taxes might have to rise even though he had promised before his re-election last month that this would not be necessary to pay for unity.

The main purpose of the news conference, however, was to try to counter growing international criticisms of Germany for failing to do more to help the war effort. Volker Rühe, general secretary of the chancellor's Christian Democrats, gave a warning in an interview published in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* yesterday that European union was being jeopardised by Germany's perceived refusal to help. This made western European union almost impossible, he said; European monetary union would not even be possible if Germany was not seen as wanting to help build a "community of destiny".

The chancellor sought to make it clear that there were no political differences on the Gulf with countries like Britain, France and Italy who have sent forces to fight in the war. Saddam alone had been responsible for the war, he said. The barbaric mistreatment of the allied prisoners and the threat of a worldwide terror onslaught showed that the Iraqi leader only wanted to escalate the war. In the struggle against this attack on the world community, Germany stood solidly beside its partners and allies.

The chancellor also spoke out firmly against the anti-American demonstrations which have spread throughout Germany since the outbreak of the war. The coalition was fighting on behalf of the international community against an unscrupulous dictator so that everyone, including Germans, could live tomorrow in a peaceful world, he said.

Herr Genscher, at the same press conference, said that Germany was sending substantial military supplies to help in the war, although for security reasons he refused to say precisely what was involved. Germany is a big producer of munitions and precision instruments used by Nato and is likely to be supplying this type of equipment to the armed forces. Herr Kohl said that he had already been told by President Bush that Germany was providing more material help to the coalition than any other nation not participating in the fighting.

Germany remembers, page 14
Leading article, page 15



No man's land: An Egyptian worker who has fled Iraq, surrounded by the luggage of his fellow refugees near Ruweished on the Jordanian border yesterday. He was one of up to 5,000 people waiting to cross the frontier which was closed by Iraq earlier in the day. It was reported that one Bedouin was killed and another injured near the border when they were struck by a bomb or missile. A relief worker said that about 12,000 people had crossed into Jordan in the past week, while up to a million more are expected to try to leave Iraq and Kuwait. Syria is setting up camps along its borders with Iraq and Jordan.

JAPAN

Political squabbles delay $9bn package

From JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

SQUABBLES between Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's finance minister, and Mitsuki Kato, director of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's (LDP) policy affairs committee, prompted Japan's prime minister to cancel a scheduled press conference last night at which he was expected to announce details of the extra $9 billion package Japan has pledged for the Gulf effort.

Mr Hashimoto, who promised the additional funds to the allied coalition in New York earlier this week, discovered that while he had been away, Mr Kato, annoyed that the LDP had not been consulted before the promise, had suggested that Japan offered a further $1-2 billion in aid to the front-line states.

Whatever the final decision on the extent of Japan's promise, the plans as to exactly how or when — or if — the funds are raised are entirely up in the air. One possibility now being discussed is a temporary rise in taxes. Another, is the issue of short-term government bonds.

Toshiki Kaifu, the prime minister, has a labyrinthine path to negotiate before he can deliver on any promised contribution. The first stage will be to put the proposal for additional funds before the Diet, the Japanese parliament.

The opposition Japan Socialist Party and Japan Communist Parties oppose any further aid, financial, medical or otherwise, to the Gulf effort on constitutional, political and moral grounds. The opposition Komeito also opposes contributions to the costs of military action in the Gulf, but would agree to contributing humanitarian aid.

Given their control of the Upper House of the Diet, the opposition parties have vowed to block the LDP's proposal. Even within the LDP, factional disputes are raging over whether Japan should contribute at all to the Gulf efforts, and whether the current impasse may provide sufficient impetus to topple Mr Kaifu.

Politicians jockeying for position are having to strike a balance between wishing to sabotage Mr Kaifu's chances of re-election at the end of his term in November, avoiding damage to Japan's international image and keeping Japan's avowedly pacifist electorate happy.

It might be expeditious for Mr Kaifu to take his funding promise straight to the Ministry of Finance to arrange for supplementary budgetary measures. This he could do without having to seek the approval of the Diet.

However, squabbles between the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Japan may block even this. The ministry is opposed to an issue of bonds which would keep interest rates high.

MAN IN THE NEWS: PETER ARNETT

Lone voice behind enemy lines

By MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

IT IS a hard responsibility to be virtually the only source of news from a country, especially during a war. There are bound to be accusations that a correspondent remaining in a capital when his colleagues have been expelled is being manipulated for propaganda reasons, or has been so circumscribed in what he can say that his reports give a distorted view.

Peter Arnett, the correspondent for Cable News Network in Baghdad, is a tough man, a seasoned war correspondent who is better qualified than almost anyone to resist the pressures put on him by the Iraqis. For 30 years he has reported wars and violence. He has lived and worked in countries such as the Soviet Union, South Africa, South Vietnam and Israel, where the restrictions on correspondents are enormous.

In the first day of the war he and two CNN colleagues provided vivid reporting which has won worldwide acclaim. But his reports from Baghdad are now censored and therefore necessarily partial. His movements are restricted, his access to news is carefully controlled. Yesterday he reported an allied attack on what the Iraqis claimed to be a baby formula factory. But neither his camera nor his commentary confirmed what he was officially told. His own network gave prominence to American claims that it was a biological weapons establishment.

Arnett, a divorcee with two children and nearing 60, was born in New Zealand and first made his name in Southeast Asia. He was one of several young Australian and New Zealand reporters in the region, thrown out of Indonesia in 1962, and working as a freelance then in Laos. He won a Pulitzer prize in 1966, reporting the American involvement in Vietnam for the Associated Press, and stayed in Saigon until the south fell in 1975.



Arnett: argued with the Iraqis as the bombs flew

He has never been far from conflict: El Salvador, Nicaragua, Afghanistan. He was in Tel Aviv during the 1973 war, and in Beirut when the TWA plane was hijacked in 1985. His last assignment for CNN, which he joined in 1981 a year after the all-news television station began, was in Jerusalem. Before that he was in Moscow, when even in the early Gorbachev days he was subject to the usual harassment that Western reporters endured. Thugs beat him up in 1987 after he reported the protests of Jewish refuseniks on the eve of the Washington summit.

Colleagues who have worked with him say he is no daredevil, but a man who knows what war can do and bring. While the other two reporters in the Baghdad hotel room had a bravery born of inexperience of gunfire, Arnett knew that missiles can penetrate buildings, Yet it was Arnett who argued with the Iraqi guards while the bombs and glass were flying.

His reports from Baghdad, he would admit, have to be seen in the knowledge that they are what the censors want the world to hear and see. Yesterday he described the city markets, the availablity of food and the response by the military to his presence with a camera. He was able to draw a comparison — a contrast — between Baghdad and Hanoi while both were under American bombing.

For all his experience, the real problems of war reporting are often trivial or technical. Yesterday there was a transmission break: nothing Arnett could prevent, though he was back on air fairly rapidly.

EUROPE

EC stand left in confusion

From GEORGE BROCK IN STRASBOURG

THE European parliament's attempt to agree a declaration on the Gulf war collapsed in acrimony and confusion last night. After more than six hours of debate and a series of motions and amendments, every motion had either been voted down or withdrawn.

M Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, left the chamber at one point making the expressive gesture of pointing an imaginary gun at his head.

Western European countries have contributed the following forces:

BRITAIN: Up to 34,000 men, about 25,000 in the army, which has some 170 Challenger tanks; up to 72 Tornado and Jaguar aircraft; Nimrod reconnaissance aircraft and Puma helicopters; 16 naval ships, including two destroyers and two frigates; the Ark Royal has been sent to the Eastern Mediterranean; 1,000 medical reservists.

FRANCE: 13,500 troops, including 10,000 in Saudi Arabia, a 4,000-strong garrison at Djibouti; Navy has 2,500 men on 11 ships; airforce of 1,000 men has 40 warplanes — 24 Jaguars, 12 Mirage 2000s and 4 Mirage F1CR reconnaissance planes; 120 anti-tank helicopters, 40 AMX-30 battletanks, plus light tanks and field guns.

TURKEY: 100,000 regular troops serve near the Iraqi border, backed by 35,000 paramilitary gendarmes and police. 50 Leopard-1 tanks; Airforce has some 30 F-16s and 20 F-4 and F-104 fighters, several F-15 fighters; 5,000 troops; Navy has three destroyers, two submarines, a minesweeper and a supply ship.

BELGIUM: Two minehunters and a support ship.

ITALY: Three frigates and eight Tornado fighter planes.

THE NETHERLANDS: Two frigates, one supply ship and crew of 600; 50,000 gas masks sent to Turkey.

SPAIN: One frigate and two corvettes; hospital supplies.

DENMARK: One corvette.

NATO: 18 German Alpha-jets, six Italian F-104 Starfighter reconnaissance planes and 18 Belgian Mirage-5 fighter bombers.

Leading article, page 15

WASHINGTON NOTEBOOK by Susan Ellicott

Humour becomes first casualty on home front

The order of the day in Washington since the outbreak of war in the Gulf is politics as not quite usual. President Bush is maintaining a studied normality while the rest of the city's politicans try to weigh up what is seemly behaviour when public attention is fixed on television pictures of missile attacks.

One casualty of Operation Desert Storm on the social calendar of the US capital's rich and famous is the 78th annual stag dinner of the invitation-only Alfalfa Club, so named for the plant's deep roots that search for liquid refreshment. The club's all-male 150 members meet once a year to eat, drink and poke fun at themselves. Under the cloud of warfare, the club's secretary has cancelled this Saturday's gathering because "it would be in particularly bad taste to have a humorous dinner ... in unhumorous times". Among those expected at the head table were Mr Bush, Dan Quayle, the vice-president, cabinet members, congressional leaders, senior military brass and Supreme Court justices.



The club, founded in 1913, handed Mr Bush his first presidency in 1985 when he was Ronald Reagan's deputy by nominating him as US leader on the Alfalfa ticket.

Few of Washington's career women will be distressed to hear about the event's cancellation, although the diarists of US newspapers were probably counting on the dinner for a spicy anecdote or two for their pages. One of the most famous political tempests to emerge from a recent Alfalfa evening was an apology by Senator Pete Domenici, a New Mexico Democrat, to one of the Senate's only two female members. "Just like the singer Tom Jones, women often throw their panties at me when I speak," he told an audience in 1985. "It happened only yesterday. I don't know what came over Barbara Mikulski."

Mrs Mikulski, a fellow Democrat from Maryland, gracefully accepted her colleague's apology by appearing on the Senate floor with a pair of panties on her head.

Restaurants in the US capital frequented by the powerful are reporting quiet business as members of Congress stay in their home constituencies or decline to venture from home for security reasons. Political fund-raisers are also up in the air even as policitians re-elected last November struggle to replenish their coffers. Richard Gephardt, the Democratic leader of the House of Representatives, has postponed his 50th birthday party. Tickets were $500 a head and the Missouri Democrat has but $241,032 in the bank after spending almost $1.4 million to hold on to his seat.

Charles Grassley, a Republican senator in the isolationist Midwestern state of Iowa, decided to go ahead with a $1,000-a-ticket reception at a fancy French restaurant on Capitol Hill, although he cancelled a similar event in Des Moines.

For others, war cannot dampen the financial realities of US politics. One freshman member of Congress, Thomas Andrews, is forging ahead with plans for a $500-a-head reception next week in the hope of paying off $90,000 of campaign debt.

Saturday Review

How the military changed direction

"It is to be hoped that because of the way our people can fight the war our returning warriors will never suffer the deplorable treatment meted out by the American people to veterans of the war in Vietnam." Norman Dixon on new pride and old prejudice

Muscling in on a movie fortune

Kate Muir meets the beefcake billionaire, Arnold Schwarzenegger

Schooled at the dinner table

Home Office minister Angela Rumbold recalls lessons learnt at her parents' dinner parties, a better training ground than any of the 15 schools she attended

The Times on Saturday: order it to be sure of it

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DEPORTATIONS

More Iraqis detained as 14 students are expelled

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRSPONDENT

FOURTEEN Iraqi students were deported from Britain to Jordan yesterday by armed police as the Home Office security operation continued with fresh arrests. Police and immigration officials detained 31 Iraqis regarded as a possible risk to national security.

Since September 160 Iraqis and 12 others holding passports from a variety of Middle East countries have been detained pending deportation. Many have already left Britain but last night 87 individuals were being held in Pentonville prison or immigration service detention.

The latest arrests, which began overnight, were made as a High Court judge rejected an attempt by a noted Palestinian author to challenge the deportations and decided that he had been wrong to permit a hearing into another Palestinian case earlier this week. Mr Justice Simon Brown said that the courts could not investigate matters of national security.

The judge ruled that an application by Abbas Shaeblak, aged 46, a Palestinian with a Jordanian passport, for leave to seek a writ of habeas corpus freeing him from custody in Pentonville prison was misconceived. He also held that Mr Shaeblak, an executive member of the anti-Saddam Arab Human Rights Committee, could not seek a judicial review of the home secretary's decision to detain him after he was served with a deportation notice.

The judge said that the way for detainees to challenge deportation notices was through the non-statutory advisory committee set up to investigate such cases involving matters of national security. The judge suggested that Mr Shaeblak would not be at a disadvantage by having to appear before the advisory committee without legal representation.

"He is an academic and a journalist, plainly of enormous intelligence and ability and well able to advance his own case," he said. The committee would also be able to form an intelligent view of the background facts and national security implications, which the courts could not do.

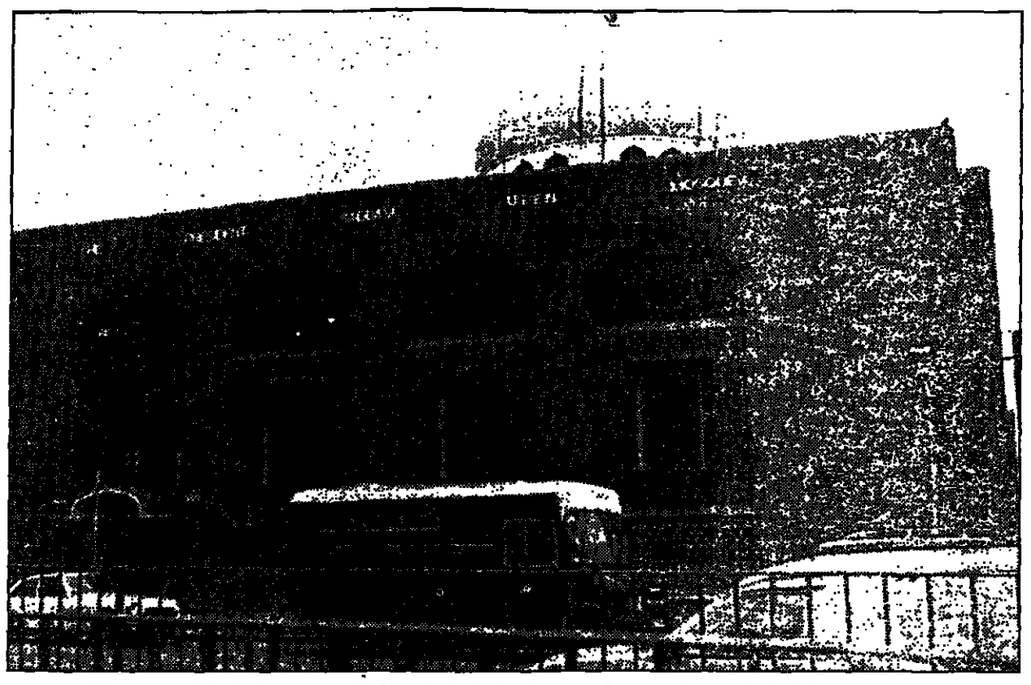
During the hearing Eugene Cotran, for Mr Shaeblak, argued that the non-statutory advisory committee was a useless procedure as an alternative to a High Court hearing. Mr Shaeblak would have no right to legal representation before the committee, would not be told the case against him, the hearing would be held in secret and possibly take months, and he would not be able to appeal.

Rejecting all those arguments, the judge said that Mr Shaeblak had been given reasons for his detention when the deportation notice was issued. He said the reasons had been enlarged by Alison Foster, counsel for the Home Office, who said that Iraq had openly threatened terrorist action against unspecified western targets and that Mr Shaeblak's "own links with an organisation which we believe might take such action in support of the Iraqis" made his presence in the United Kingdom "an unacceptable security risk".

The judge also said that he had made a wrong decision in giving leave for a hearing to a Palestinian who says he is facing deportation with his wife because he is related to a Palestinian terrorist. Last night it was not clear what would happen to the hearing set for tomorrow.

Friendly chat bridges religious differences

By ALAN FRANKS



The mosque in Birmingham built with a £1.6 million donation from Saddam and which bears his name

HELMET in hand, a policeman pokes his head tentatively round the carved mahogany door of a mosque in Birmingham and asks if everything is all right.

Over the previous ten minutes some 150 local Muslims, most of them originally from the Indian sub-continent, have filed quietly into the gold-domed building, next to a funeral parlour in the northern suburb of Aston. They have removed their shoes and placed them in neat racks each side of the door. After performing ritual ablutions, they have gone upstairs to a large carpeted hall to say their late afternoon prayers.

Bahauddin Sayed, the 33-year-old deputy imam, who is waiting to lead the congregation, leans over the wooden balcony and nods assent. "You've got our number," the policeman says. "If you've any problems, give us a call."

"Much obliged," the tall, bespectacled cleric replies cheerily.

It is an encouraging exchange, testament to a local police force's efforts to foster good community relations, particularly at a time when British Muslims have begun to voice their opposition to the Gulf war. What makes it remarkable is the name over the building's entrance — The President Saddam Hussein Mosque — picked out in large silver capital letters.

The mosque was constructed over seven years starting in 1981. Its president, Hazratmia Kazi, a short, energetic former postman aged 68, explains that, a decade ago, he approached Muslim ambassadors for funds. Only Iraq responded, offering a £1.6 million donation. Part of the deal was that the red brick building, with its golden dome and £37,000 worth of carpet woven in nearby Kidderminster, should bear the Iraqi president's name in perpetuity.

The mosque's Iraqi connection is controversial, even among its own worshippers. "What's the name got to do with anything?" one member asks defensively. "We'd be happier if we didn't have it." But outside, in the street running down to Aston Villa football club, a young factory worker says defiantly: "Saddam is a great Muslim leader. There's a lot of support for him here."

Police protection for the mosque was stepped up in September after four youths caused £2,400 worth of damage trying to burn the place down. But this act of vandalism only stiffened resolve among local Muslims to keep their Iraqi ties.

Mr Kazi says Saddam's name has been retained as a mark of respect for the man who funded the building's construction. Two weeks ago he travelled to Baghdad to attend his benefactor's Islamic peace conference. At the weekend he was in Bradford for a meeting of British Muslim leaders who condemned the allied attack on Iraq and called for the overthrow of Islamic governments fighting in the coalition against Saddam Hussein.

Mr Kazi denies he or his co-religionists are acting unpatriotically. "We are all British Muslims. Our first allegiance is to our government." He says he is "praying that good sense will prevail". Politics and religion should not be mixed, he adds.

Across the street the Rev Richard Hunt, vicar of the Holy Trinity Church, agrees. "Some people want those distinctions confused," he says. "We pray for the safety of that mosque every day."

Is Mr Kazi worried about the Gulf war turning into a religious conflict? "I don't think it will come to that," he answers, matter-of-factly. Why then the fulsome support expressed for the Iraqi dictator at the Bradford meeting? "It was a very emotional occasion. There was a very strong feeling that there should be peace." Somehow religion and politics can get linked. "Saddam should not have gone into Kuwait," argues a senior mosque official, who does not want to be named.

"But, after that happened the Arabs should have been allowed to work it out for themselves."

Would not that have allowed the Iraqi president to stay in Kuwait? "If the Saudis and Kuwaitis had asked Muslims round the world to support them, the necessary pressure would have been put put on Saddam Hussein," he replies with confidence.

Leaving the mosque, I ask him if local Muslims have taken special precautions against a possible hostile reaction if the allies suffer reverses in the Gulf? "Well, we don't wear gas masks," he says, with a smile, and then adds, more seriously, "We're a well-established Muslim community. There is no reason for us to feel threatened because we are British Muslims." And his well-modulated accent is firmly on the word British.

PEACE CAMPAIGN

Objectors 'need to be told of rights'

By RAY CLANCY

MEN and women reservists who are on standby but are reluctant to fight because they do not support a war which they believe has nothing to do with Britain, want to object but are unaware of the procedure, it was claimed yesterday.

The Peace Pledge Union, the pacifist organisation founded by Sigfried Sassoon in 1936, said it had received calls from reservists, and their families and friends, seeking information.

Bill Hetherington, a senior committee member, said: "Reservists are worried because they joined the forces to fight for Britain but they do not believe this war has anything to do with Britain, that it is to do with oil."

The union believes the opportunities for objectors should be publicised more clearly. Mr Hetherington said: "Reservists, like regulars currently serving full time, may apply under Defence Council instruction 3/75 for a complete discharge from all military obligations on the grounds of conscientious objection.

"The process involves an initial written application which is then referred to the Ministry of Defence which can discharge on its own initiative or refer the application to the Advisory Committee on Conscientious Objection."

MEDIA

BBC news relayed to troops

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

RADIO 4 FM, the BBC station devoted to non-stop news of the Gulf war, is to be relayed to British and American troops in the Gulf via a station at Al Jubayl, eastern Saudi Arabia.

The BBC station, which has been relying on unpaid volunteers as the cost of Gulf coverage escalates, is already broadcasting in Germany via British Forces Broadcasting.

"We've been operating on a shoestring," said Jenny Abramsky, editor of BBC news and current affairs radio, adding that BBC radio is in the red as a result of the war.

Coverage of the Gulf conflict has put the BBC's World Service more than £750,000 over budget.

BBC Television's costs for covering the Gulf conflict shot past £2 million before the war began, but the BBC will not reveal how much it is overspending.

ITN, which spent £500,000 to put its 75 correspondents and crew in place, has been spending an extra £120,000 a day since war broke out. Its normal weekly budget of just over £1 million has been increased to over £1.8 million.

Diary, page 14

HOUSE OF COMMONS

MPs urge Israelis to show restraint



By PETER MULLIGAN

ISRAEL was urged by all sides in the Commons yesterday not to retaliate against the Iraqi missile attack on Tel Aviv in which three people died and 98 were injured.

Douglas Hogg, junior foreign office minister, told MPs that Israel was entitled to defend herself but that was not the issue.

He said: "The question is whether it is in her interests to retaliate. We believe it is not. To do so would be to play Saddam Hussein's game without in our view adding to Israel's security. I hope that Israel will continue to show the same patient and courageous restraint that she has already displayed in the face of outrageous provocation."

Mr Hogg said that the allied coalition would do all in its power to defend the Israelis and he condemned the attack as indiscriminate.

Gerald Kaufman, shadow foreign secretary, described the bombing as an act of wickedness and desperation on the part of the Iraqi leader.

Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester West, said it was unrealistic to expect the Israeli government to submit its people to a series of barbarous repeated and monstrous attacks without retaliating.

Gwyneth Dunwoody, Labour MP for Crewe and Nantwich, said that in a democratic country, people would expect to be defended by their own government.

Tony Benn, Labour MP for Chesterfield, feared an escalation of the war in which Israel and Jordan might become involved. The Security Council of the UN should meet to consider the implications of the bombing, he said.

Robert O'Neill, professor of the history of war at Oxford, told the Commons foreign affairs committee yesterday that the Israelis had superior intelligence information on Iraq and the Gulf which gave them a much better chance than the allies of going after Saddam Hussein.

WAR CABINET

Fog lifts to disclose air strike successes

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

GOVERNMENT sources announced after yesterday's meeting of the war cabinet that "the fog is lifting both literally and metaphorically". Improved weather conditions in the Middle East had allowed reconnaisance flights to verify the effects of bombing raids in recent days and allowed the allies to resume planned patterns of attack.

Intelligence reports shown to ministers yesterday revealed strong evidence that Iraqi chemical and nuclear facilities had been significantly damaged. The airfield bombing runs by RAF Tornados with their GP233 cluster bombs were said to have made precision bombing of such targets possible by creating air superiority for the allies.

While the fog may have lifted in the Middle East, however, it still hung densely over Whitehall yesterday. It was made clear that no photographic evidence of the successful raids would be made available to the media, with some military figures arguing that too much information had been given already.

The Whitehall information service said that any detailed information passed on to newspapers, radio and television would give away to the Iraqis the degree to which the allied forces could distinguish between real and dummy targets. It could not confirm reports of the deliberate firing of Kuwaiti oilfields by Iraq, and the government was said to have no knowledge either of the treatment or location of the captured RAF pilots.

Yesterday's war cabinet discussed the latest Scud missile attack on Israel. Britain has continued to urge restraint on the Israelis through diplomatic contacts. There is, however, a growing doubt among British ministers that the intense domestic political pressures on the Israeli government to hit back will be resisted for much longer.

The question of how to pay for the war and what further contributions might be solicited from non-combatant nations was not discussed at the meeting.

Kinnock's war: calm and passion raises stature

By PHILLIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEIL Kinnock has won some far from grudging praise from his Conservative opponents during the past few days. A senior Tory backbencher chatting with colleagues on Monday night rated the Opposition leader's speech in the Gulf debate the best he had heard him make. His friend disagreed; Mr Kinnock's performance the previous Tuesday on the eve of war had been even better.

Yesterday the Labour leader was composed and relaxed among an audience of military experts as he fielded questions after a lunchtime speech to the Royal United Services Institute in Whitehall. It is very early days but in the eyes of his shadow cabinet colleagues Mr Kinnock has had a good start to the war. While the Labour party can never expect much political profit from an international conflict in which Britain is involved, they believe that Mr Kinnock is competently seizing the opportunity to underline his credentials to be a national leader.

One said yesterday that Mr Kinnock's capacity in his recent speeches and his national television broadcast last week to display the right mixture of calm and passion was precisely what the country desired at such a time. "The big doubt about John Major is whether he has the ability to move up a gear," Mr Kinnock's colleagues said. "By focusing attention imaginatively on what should happen when peace breaks out Neil was changing pace and leading the debate."

Mr Kinnock's skills at party management and his achievement in turning Labour once more into an electoral force has earned him much credit; if anything his role as the driver of key policy changes has been understated. On the big issues such as defence and European monetary union it has been Mr Kinnock who has laid out the destination for his colleagues and asked them to help him get there.

Foreign policy and military strategy in general, and the Gulf conflict in particular, are areas where he feels at home. It has always been wrong to equate Mr Kinnock's CND past with pacifism. This is the man who in his younger days wanted to be a policeman. The man who three years ago on a Middle East tour was taken to an underground museum at a kibbutz near the Golan Heights containing arms and ammunition used by the Israelis against the British in 1947-8 and surprised reporters and friends with his prodigious knowledge of the ageing weapons. The man who cares passionately about the welfare of the British forces.



Kinnock: shows voracious appetite for information

Mr Kinnock, according to a close friend, has a voracious appetite for informing himself. His recent speeches and television address have followed a mass of consultation with his political colleagues and a handful of academics and former senior military officers, but they have all been written by him personally. Mr Kinnock listens, takes advice, but writes his own speeches.

Since the balloon went up last week the colleagues most regularly beating a path to Mr Kinnock's Westminster office for policy discussions have been Gerald Kaufman, the shadow foreign secretary, the highly-regarded George Robertson, Mr Kaufman's No 2, and Martin O'Neill, the shadow defence secretary.

The leadership's formula of calling for sanctions to be given longer to work and opposing an early war succeeded in putting the lid on the beginnings of a rebellion among the shadow cabinet soft left. But no sooner had Mr Kinnock contained that uprising than the outbreak of hostilities enabled him to throw his party behind the war effort. Along with the prime minister, the ultimate test for Mr Kinnock could come if things start to go wrong.

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Major tells manifesto working groups to be ready next month

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major has ordered his manifesto working groups to produce their report by the end of the first week of next month in a move that will be seen by Conservative MPs as signalling the possibiity of a June general election.

Under Margaret Thatcher's original timetable for the next election, the groups, which are organised on a departmental basis, were expected to report by the end of this month. Their work was thrown into disarray by the turmoil of the leadership contest and some have held no more than a couple of meetings.

The prime minister's intervention is intended to galvanise their efforts and to ensure that he keeps open his options for an early election.

Mr Major appears to be toying with the possibility of an appeal for a fresh mandate on the back of a spring victory in the Gulf war. With the recession threatening to be deeper and longer thn first feared, the prospects of an October election seemed to be receding. If the prime minister rules out a June poll, he may choose to delay a dissolution of Parliament until 1992 when the economic outlook should be more promising.

Meanwhile, the power struggle surrounding the manifesto will take a fresh turn tonight when one of the newer political pressure groups starts to flex its muscles.

At a seminar in London organised by the Radical Society, a group of speakers drawn largely from the Conservative right will seek to lay claim to Mr Major's cloudy vision of a classless society by arguing for a reduced role for the state in social policy.

Arthur Seldon, one of the gurus of the new right, will argue that current policy has created under-classes in housing, health, education and pensions. Consumers of such services have been sidelined by vested interests in government, the professions, the unions and industry.

Mr Seldon will claim that the ordinary citizens of the country are doing badly under government "by the bossy, for the bully".

Rule by the culturally powerful should be replaced by market forces in which lower taxes give consumers the power to shop around for the services they want, he believes. "The radical aim now is to undo the century-old errors of government by reducing to a third its power to tax, control and regulate.

"The tasks are to sell off the council estates, re-finance the hospitals by private insurance, run the state schools by private entrepreneurs and replace the state pension by private saving", he will say.

Professor Stephen Haseler, the society's chairman and a former member of the Labour party and the SDP, will argue that an open, classless society can be created only by eliminating snobbery, social barriers and restrictive practices.

Tonight's meeting will also be addressed by John Redwood, a trade and industry minister and a former head of the Downing Street policy unit under Mrs Thatcher.

Other speakers at meetings planned to be held over the next three months include Nicholas Ridley, the former trade and industry secretary and a Thatcherite, and Graham Mather, who is director of the Institute of Economic Affairs.



Proud moment: Lord Sterling of Plaistow (centre), the former Sir Jeffrey Sterling, who took his seat in the Lords yesterday, with his sponsors, Lord Jenkin of Roding (left) and Lord Goodman

Minister tries to head off revolt

By JILL SHERMAN
SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM Waldegrave, the health secretary is trying to ward off a backbench rebellion in support of a no-fault compensation scheme for victims of medical accidents by promising speedier access to the courts and lower costs.

A private member's bill, introduced by Rosie Barnes, independent SDP MP for Greenwich, detailing such a scheme, was given widespread support yesterday by the medical and legal professions and by consumer organisations. Mr Waldegrave, however, has made clear that the government is opposed to the bill which would allow medical accident victims to be compensated irrespective of fault. During a meeting with Mrs Barnes on Tuesday Mr Waldegrave failed to persuade her to drop the bill and told her that the government would vote against it.

"There was no common ground as far as the principles were concerned", Mrs Barnes said at a press conference.

The government may be tempted to try to talk out the bill during its second reading tomorrow week so that it is not seen in fact to vote against a bill that has cross-party support from about fifty MPs as well as support from many organisations.

Mr Waldegrave is circulating alternative proposals to help to stop Conservative MPs backing Mrs Barnes. The proposals include a suggestion that soaring compensation settlements could be checked by basing any future damages on treatment in the NHS.

The health secretary has also indicated his support for a proposal from Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, for a register of specialist solicitors to which patients can be referred. That, he says, would ensure speedier access to the courts.

EC 'has no role to play in defence'

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

NEIL Kinnock pledged Labour yesterday to the maintenance of a strong Nato and set his face against continental efforts to give the European Community a defence role.

In a speech to the Royal United Services Institute, Mr Kinnock echoed government calls for Nato to develop a greater political role. He called for aid to the Soviet Union to be reduced because of the oppression of the Baltic states, though arguing that President Gorbachev had done enough over the past six years to be given the benefit of the doubt now over the Soviet Union's behaviour.

The Labour leader said that the United Nations, which must win the Gulf war "or be forever impotent", would face its biggest test in achieving a lasting peace settlement in the Middle East afterwards.

The ending of the Cold War had complicated security matters rather than simplifying them and Mr Kinnock said that Nato must be kept in being because of the "prodigious Russian conventional, nuclear and chemical military might". He rejected the idea of an alternative based on the Western European Union and said that introversion in America and in Europe was best avoided by retaining "reduced but significant" American links with European security.

For some time Nato would be an important component in the evolution of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), a necessary instrument for negotiation, the implementation and verification of disarmament agreements and a defensive alliance.

Without Nato, Mr Kinnock said, there would be increased calls for an EC defence role that would impede the new democracies in Eastern Europe from joining the Community and generate insecurity in the Soviet Union.

"Since the EC should really have no competence in defence matters and will, in any case, have great difficulty in developing credibilty in defence matters, the arguments for retaining Nato as the functioning security structure remain." It should, however, develop "an increasingly political and decreasingly military role".

Nato, he said, should move further to no-first-use of nuclear weapons, away from flexible response and to the abandonment of forward defence.

Mr Kinnock criticised Soviet backsliding on the CSCE and said that there was a mortal struggle going on in what he called "the volatile, economically destitute and politically fragile USSR".

He condemned the brutality against unarmed people in the Baltic republics. "The killings and injuries were repulsive and they cannot be explained away as unauthorised military action. If it was, the forces involved would have to be punished and there is, as yet, no evidence that they will be."

Suggesting that the oppression in the Baltic had been timed to coincide with the Gulf war, Mr Kinnock said that there were questions about how much power Mr Gorbachev now had and how far he was responsible. Some sanctions, in the form of suspended aid, were necessary and justifiable, but "in six years of change, Gorbachev's efforts have earned him the benefit of the doubt".

Labour to cut council controls

LABOUR promised yesterday to abolish many controls on local government spending as part of moves to improve municipal self-confidence and the quality of council services (our Local Government Correspondent writes).

Launching Labour's proposal for a quality commission to monitor the standard of council services, Bryan Gould, the shadow environment spokesman, said that the emphasis would be on service.

Labour would end the rule that council services be put out to tender and reduce the amount of external auditing of council finances, he said.

Councils that sought to cut costs by reducing services below what the new commission regarded as acceptable might be required to spend more to bring their services up to standard.

The Audit Commission, which has a wide-ranging brief to check on value for money, would be abolished and its functions taken over by the new commission.

MPs on the attack over estate agents

By JOHN WINDER

THE government is under pressure from both sides of the Commons to legislate to stop estate agents issuing misleading descriptions of houses. An order under present legislation dealing with misdescription of property is to be made by the trade and industry department and the government appears ready to back a private member's bill to deal with the issue.

The order, expected soon, is part of a package of measures to curb malpractices in estate agency that was announced last April.

Edward Leigh, consumer affairs minster, told the Commons yesterday that the government still intends to amend the Trade Descriptions Act, 1968, to apply its provisions to descriptions of real property.

Irene Adams, Labour MP for Paisley North, complained that the government had left the field wide open for hundreds of unscrupulous agents. How could it justify its lack of action? Mr Leigh said that ministers had listened to representations. A bill introduced by John Butcher (Coventry South West, C) should deal with misdescription of property.

Nigel Griffiths, Labour spokesman, said that the government had failed to honour its commitment to act by January 1 this year. Robert Dunn, Conservative MP for Dartford said that the house buyer should abide by the phrase *caveat emptor*, but the steps the minister had outlined should be brought forward as early as possible. Young people who were first-time buyers might take estate agents at face value.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; prime minister. Debate on economic and monetary union.
Lords (3): New Roads and Street Works bill, report.

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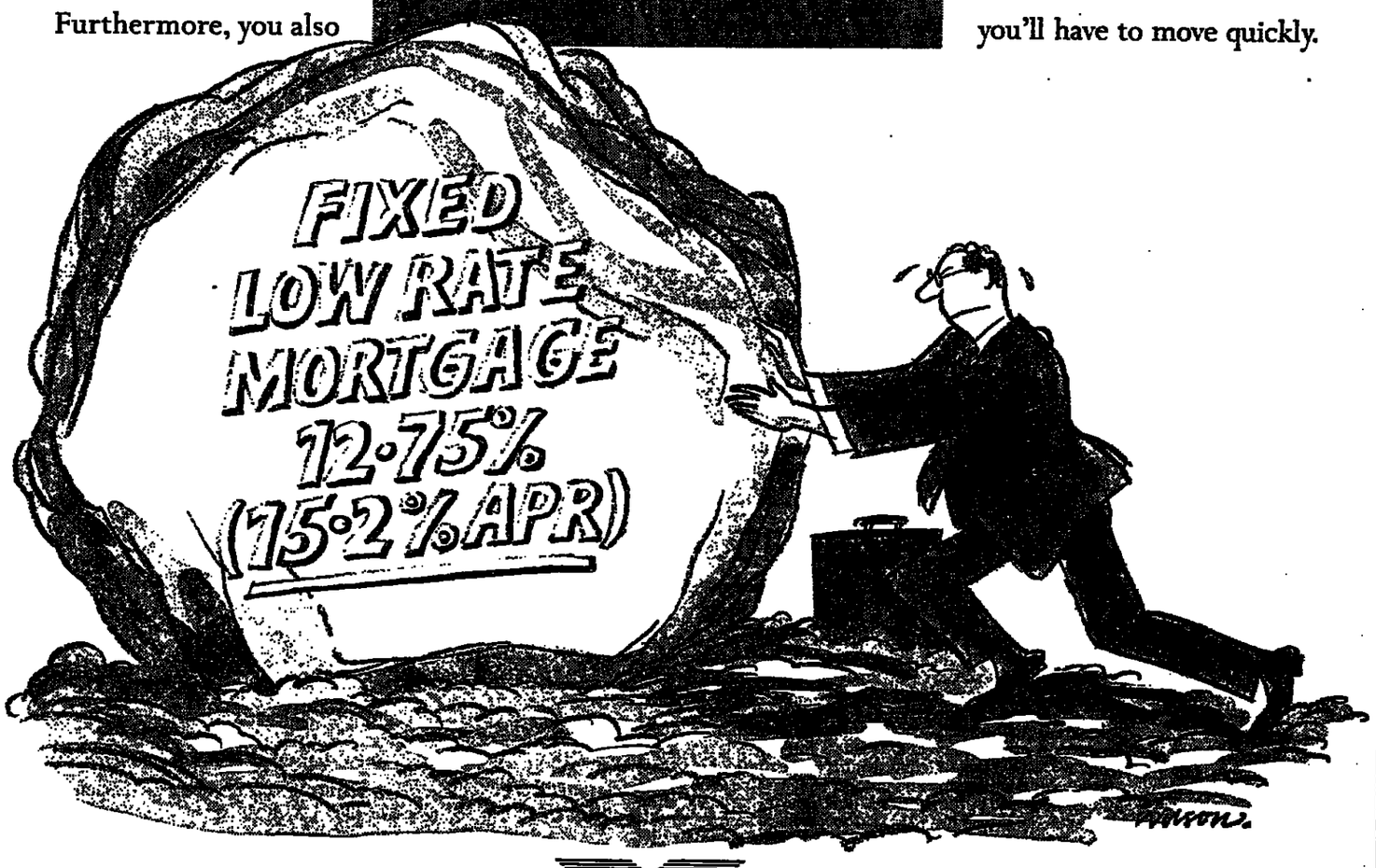
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Road victims dying because hospitals fail, experts say

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

ABOUT 2,000 people injured in road crashes and other accidents die every year in Britain because of mistakes, misjudgments and inadequacies in hospitals, specialists said yesterday.

Up to one-fifth of the annual toll of 14,500 victims of fatal accidents could be saved through research, improved training and better facilities, the doctors said. The specialists were taking part in the launch in London of the Trauma Foundation, a new charity that aims to reduce what it describes as a national epidemic of preventable deaths. "If you have a road accident at midnight, in most parts of the country you will be met by a casualty doctor who has just recently qualified and is at the beginning of his learning curve," David Skinner, a consultant at St Bartholemew's hospital, London, said.

A study by the Royal College of Surgeons of England two years ago of 1,000 deaths among trauma patients found that 486 died before reaching hospital and 102 of the 514 others who died in hospital could have been saved.

In many cases, injuries such as ruptured livers and spleens and lacerated lungs were misdiagnosed. In 63 cases, the patient died from a haemorrhage. "Mistakes that should never, never happen in hospitals do occur. Even the Brownies know how to deal with bleeding."

Mr Skinner dealt with many of the casualties of the recent Cannon Street train accident. He said hospitals and emergency services responded well to such incidents, but were less impressive in dealing with the relatively unspectacular road accidents that together caused 100 deaths every week. Casualties of the Gulf conflict moved to British hospitals would probably receive a much higher standard of care than would a road accident victim, because hospitals were geared up to make great efforts on behalf of the wounded.

Howard Sherriff, chairman of the foundation, and consultant in accident and emergency medicine at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, said: "If 5,000 people died from an infectious disease there would be calls for a public enquiry. Yet this number die every year after road accidents as part of an annual epidemic that receives little attention."

Ian Anderson, a consultant in accident and emergency medicine at the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, said: "A large body of the medical profession is unenthusiastic about this field because it is mucky and dangerous work, it means getting called out in the middle of the night." Because few doctors chose the speciality, there was a shortage of well qualified, experienced hospital staff.

The foundation aims to become a multi-million pound charity that will fund research, improve postgraduate medical education and upgrade hospital facilities. Donations should be sent to St Bartholemew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE.

● The British Medical Association yesterday called on the government to introduce random breath tests for drivers at roadside checks. The association has put its views to the House of Commons standing committee that is considering the government's road traffic bill.

Use of lay advocates rejected

The Crown Prosecution Service will announce today that it has rejected controversial proposals for using non-legally qualified clerks to present simple cases in court (Frances Gibb writes).

Last autumn the Commons home affairs committee recommended that lay advocates be used to present simple cases where the offence carried no custodial sentence and where the crown prosecutor was satisfied no issue of law would arise. An internal working party report persuaded the CPS not to proceed.

Science protest

More than 250 nuclear physicists who met at Warrington yesterday are to campaign against spending cuts by the Science and Engineering Research Council. They fear the closure of internationally-used facilities at Daresbury Laboratory, Cheshire, for studying the structure of the nucleus.

Cliff body found

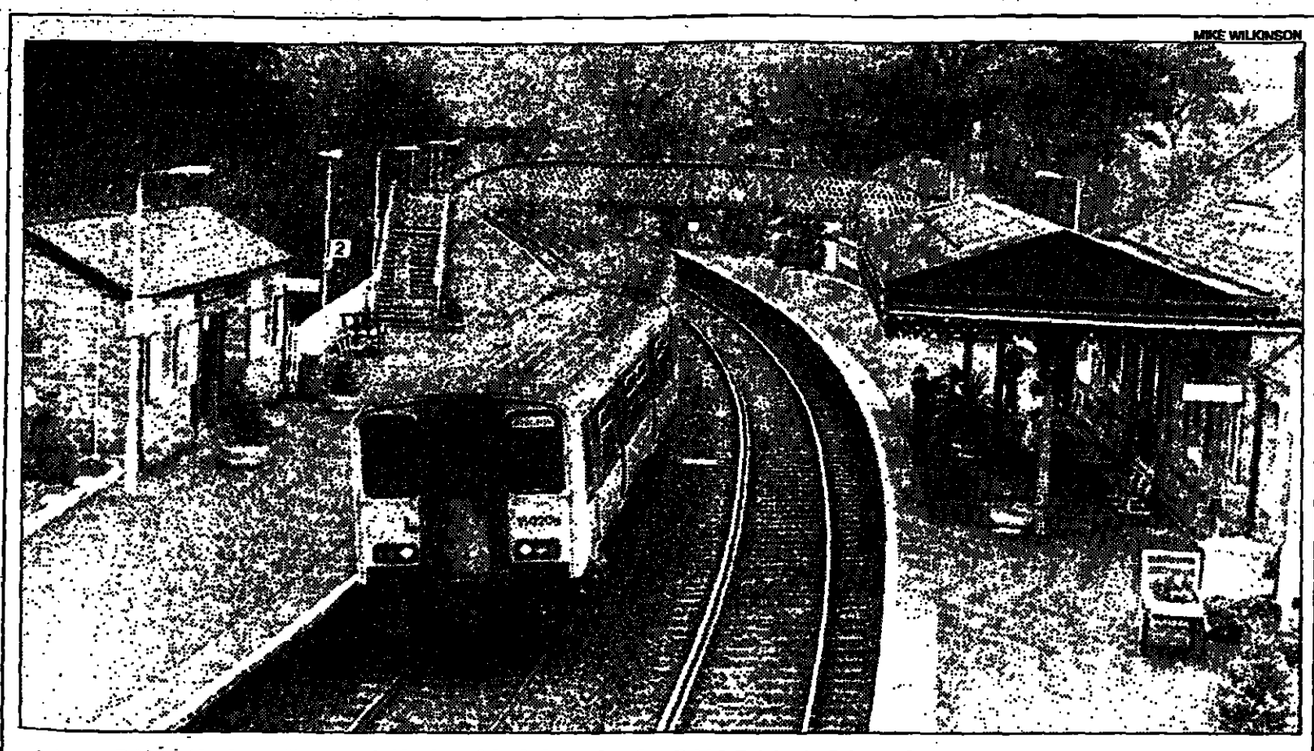
The body of a woman was found yesterday below a cliff at Shanklin, Isle of Wight, near the wreckage of her car. Police had been looking for Mrs Karen Morton, aged 35, who was divorced and had two children, since she was reported missing on Tuesday.

Cruelty record

A record number of 1,525 cases of cruelty to animals were investigated in Cornwall last year. Leslie Sutton, an RSPCA chief inspector, yesterday called 1990 "a year of shame".

Barge enquiry

A public enquiry to decide whether a garage owner, Frank Barton, aged 42, can convert a 230-tonnne Dutch barge into a floating restaurant on the Wye at Hereford was adjourned yesterday until May 21.



MIKE WILKINSON

Best in Britain: Aberdour railway station, Fife, which secured a place in railway history yesterday when it was declared the best station in 1990, the highest accolade awarded by British Rail to staff at its 2,400 stations (Michael Dynes writes). After intense competition, Andrew Philip, aged 56, the stationmaster at Aberdour, joined the ranks of British Rail's élite for transforming his station, one of the smallest on the national network, into a model of beauty, customer quality and efficiency. Mr Philip, who was awarded the coveted "best station" engraved plaque, a framed certificate, and a cheque for £1,000 from British Rail by the Princess Royal, said he was overwhelmed by the decision. "I have been trying for this for the past four years. I can't believe it," he said. Mr Philip said that he works an average of six hours each weekday and 18 hours every weekend cultivating the station's gardens, which have made it a tourist attraction in its own right. He is helped by his wife Gwen. According to British Rail's panel of judges, Aberdour's horticultural excellence was matched only by its high standard of personal, friendly service. "In five years of judging, this is the best yet. An absolute delight," they said.

Lockerbie airline 'party to murder'

By KERRY GILL

PAN AM, whose Boeing 747 airliner was blown up by a terrorist bomb over Lockerbie, was yesterday accused of being "party to murder".

Thomas Cocker, whose twin sons died in the disaster, told the enquiry in Dumfries that the airline was more concerned with minimising damage to itself than with helping the bereaved.

Mr Cocker said that he flew to Lockerbie with his wife two days after the bombing, hoping to recover the bodies of his sons, Jason and Eric, aged 20. He said he was excluded by airline officials and the police and had to wait 11 days before their release was sanctioned.

Mr Cocker said he became agitated and annoyed when undertakers refused to speak to him without a Pan Am representative present. "I expressed very strongly that Jason and Eric were not Pan Am's sons, not the Scottish police's sons. They were my sons."

He added: "Pan Am was a party to the murder of my sons. They should have had no business or right to participate in the manner they did."

The enquiry continues today.

Tunnelling feat under the street

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE latest phase of an underground project which rivals the Channel tunnel in its technical achievements will open today with a narrow gauge train ride 220ft below the streets of London.

The departure of a works train from Sadler's Wells to Regent's Park will mark the completion of the latest section of Thames Water's 50-mile London ring main. When work is completed in 1996, the 8 ft diameter water main, longer than the Channel tunnel and traversing strata of much greater difficulty than that encountered under the sea, will hold 250 million gallons of drinking water.

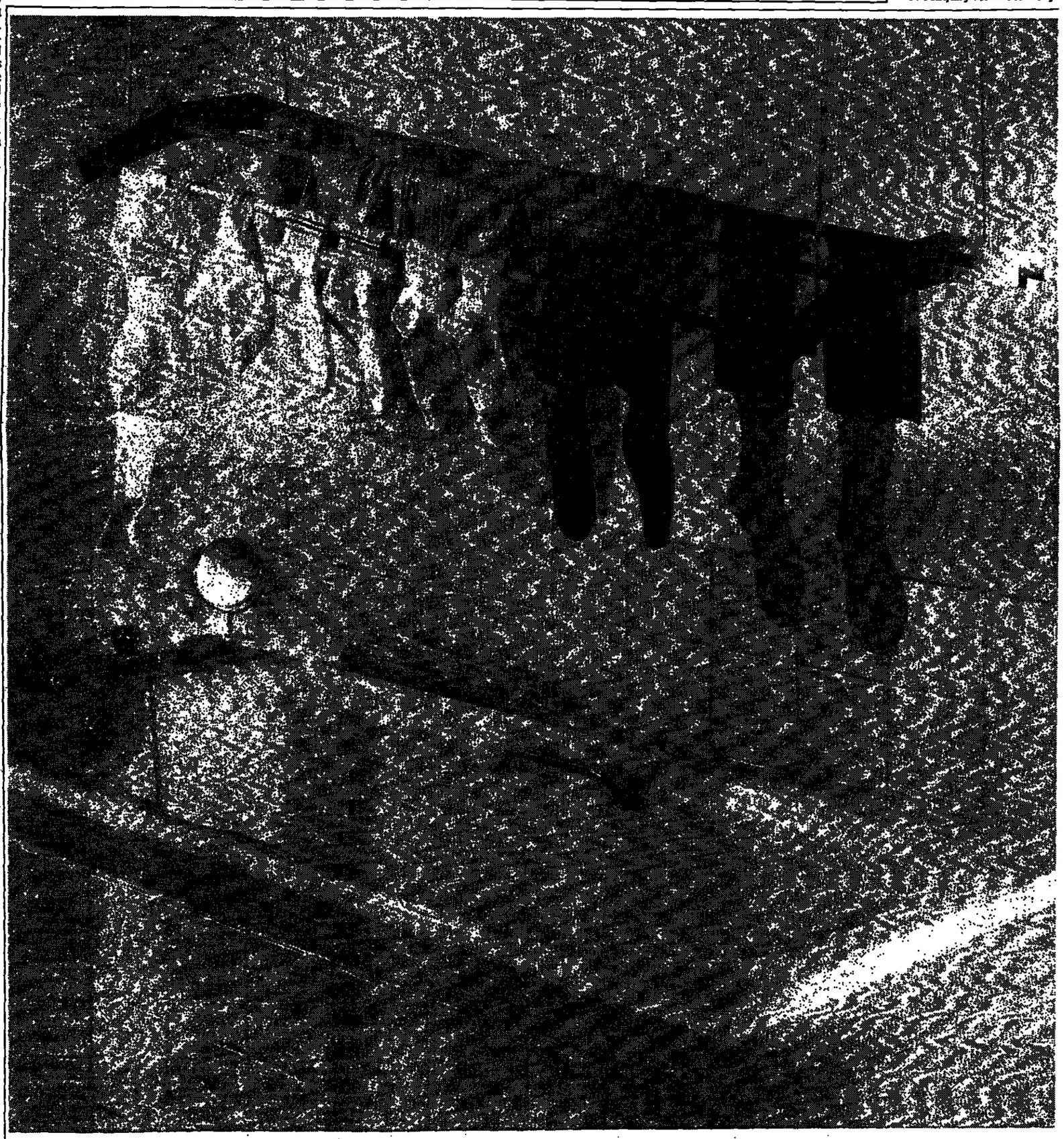
Using tunnelling machines similar to those used in the Channel tunnel, workers have already burrowed their way from the river Lea in Hertfordshire to Islington, north London, through notoriously unstable Thames clays. The project is designed to ease the pressure on outdated water mains, some built in Victorian times, and to lay the foundations for London's water supply in the 21st century.

The new main, bigger than any underground railway project since the second world war, is large enough to accommodate a London taxi, although workers will use a 2 ft gauge works train until the water starts running in five years' time.

The London ring main, costing £250 million, has been dug without undue drama or delay. The latest section from New River Head next to Sadler's Wells to Barrow Hill in Regent's Park has been completed two weeks ahead of schedule and within its budget.

Tom Curtin, of Thames Water Utilities, the division of the privatized water company overseeing the work, said: "North London is heavily tubed, so we have had to go very deep into the London clays which has caused its own problems. At this depth the clay is very inconsistent and difficult to work with. We have had to go under King's Cross, St Pancras and Euston stations, not to mention the Regent's Park canal."

Londoners, however, may have been completely unaware of the work going on beneath their feet. There have been few signs on the surface and the few sites of work above ground have been well screened.



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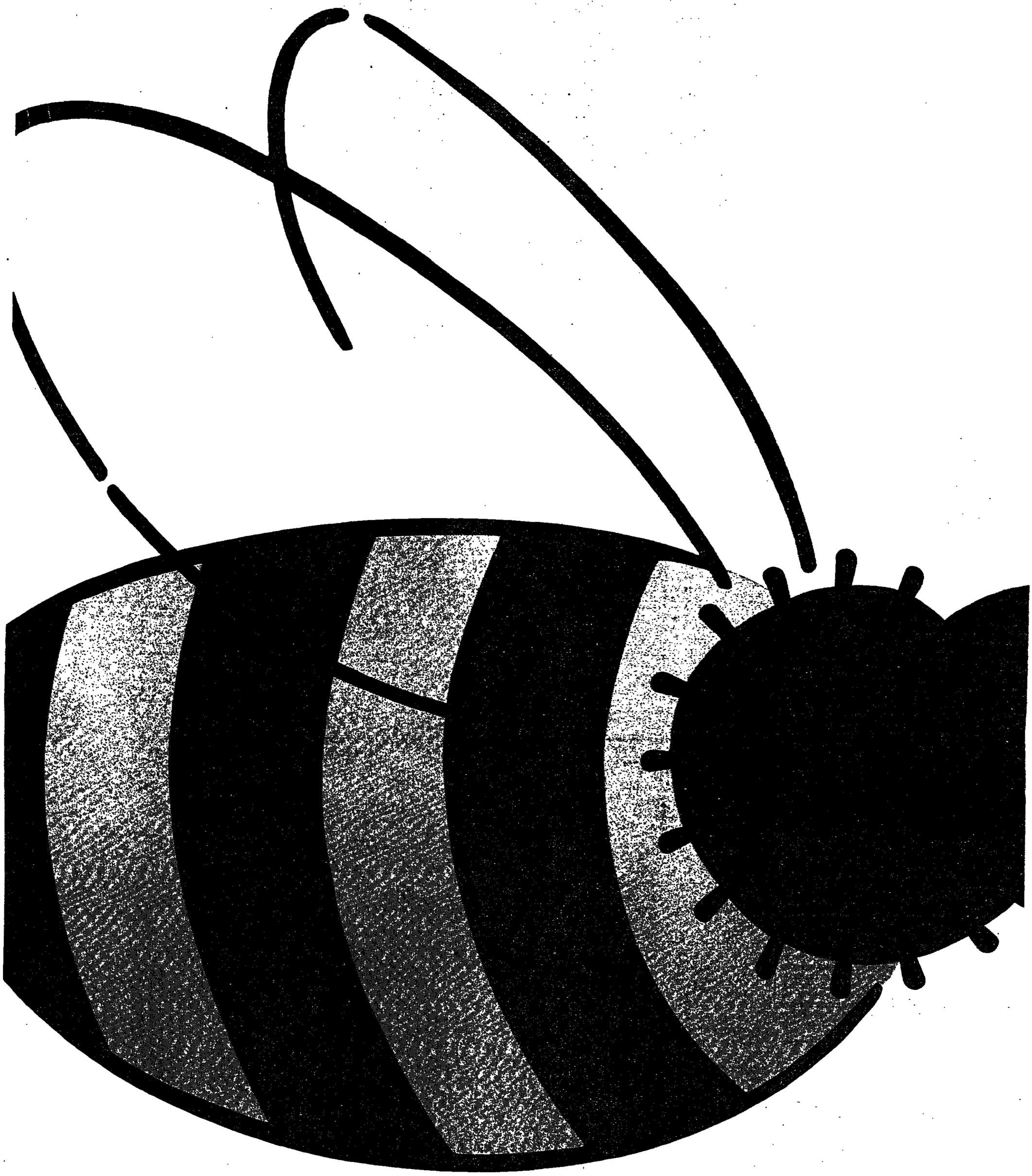
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Bribes claim as opt-out schools win extra £10m

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

SCHOOLS that have opted out of local authority control are being given more money for improvements than those that stay in council control to ensure that they are set up on a sound basis, the government said yesterday.

Education ministers have denied that schools are bribed to opt out with promises of extra money but in a parliamentary reply yesterday Tim Eggar, the education minister, said: "When schools become grant-maintained we want to ensure they are set up on a sound basis. This has led, on average, to higher capital allocations for the sector in 1991-2 than for local authority schools."

Calling for an independent enquiry into the financing of grant-maintained schools, Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, said that the £10.5 million was part of the bribes being used to breathe new life into the government's failed opt-out policy. Those schools were already receiving five times as much per pupil as local authority schools.

The government has agreed to spend £10.5 million on 30 of the 56 grant-maintained schools. Plans for the remaining nine will be announced shortly. Work approved includes £1.5 million on rebuilding at Pate's Grammar school, Cheltenham, and £320,000 on a technology block at Beechen Cliff school, Bath.

The average amount for each school is £25,000, or 50 per cent higher than in 1990-91.

David Hart, of the National Association of Headteachers, said last night: "There are local authority schools crying out for essential work but they simply do not have the money. Their needs are just as great as those of the grant-maintained school."

The National Union of Teachers said: "Does the goverment not think that all schools should be set up on a sound basis? Every child has a right to be educated in a safe, clean environment."

☐ The Down primary school, near Middleton Scriven, Bridgnorth in Shropshire, which has only 45 pupils and is facing closure, is expected today to become the first primary school in the country to ask Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, for permission to opt out of local authority control (Craig Seton writes). The result of a parental ballot on seeking grant-maintained status will be announced this morning.

☐ Schools are being overwhelmed with paperwork and will receive only statutory documents from the government and its educational advisers, Mr Eggar said yesterday.

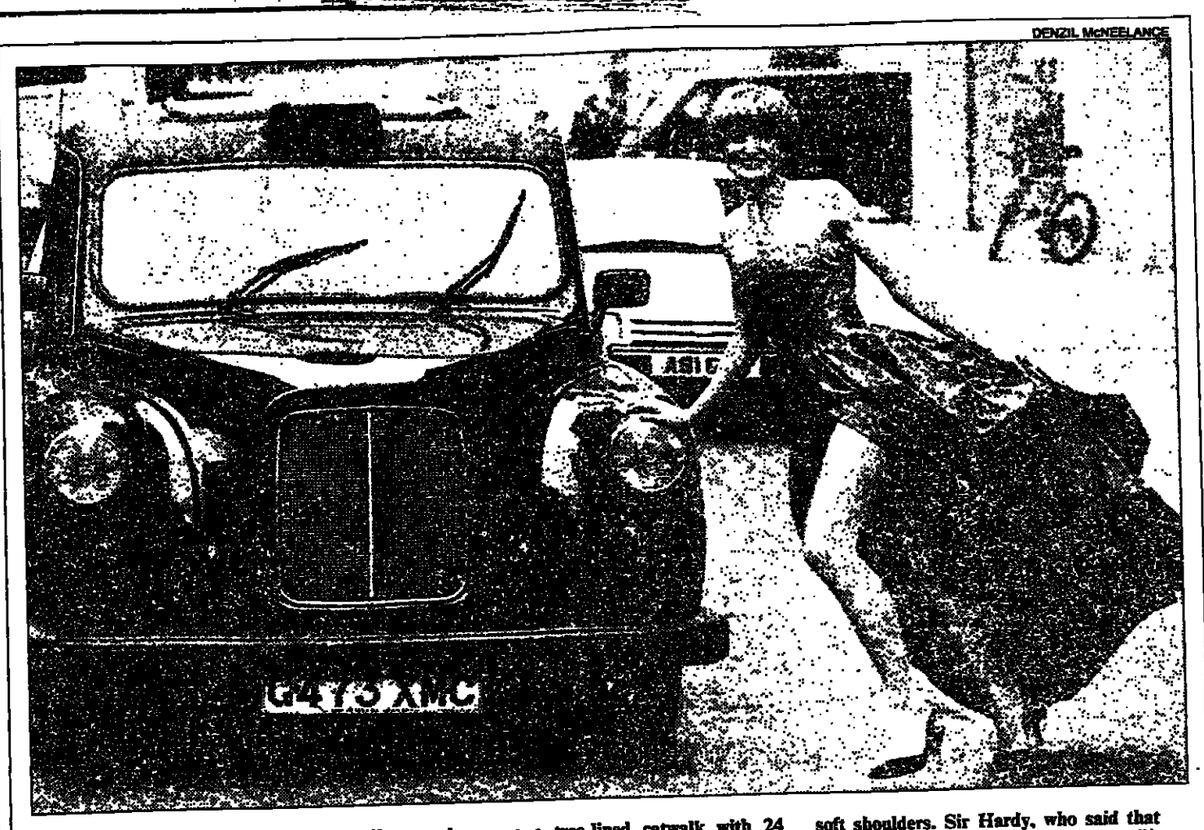
Businesses propose new campus

By JOHN O'LEARY
HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

TWO universities are pursuing a proposal from business leaders to establish a campus in Lincoln. Hull and Leicester universities are both interested in the plan, which is supported by Lincolnshire education committee.

Bishop Grosseteste teacher training college, Lincoln, is the county's only higher education institution. If successful, Lincoln would be the first city to acquire a university presence for more than 20 years. Two other groups are hoping to beat it to that distinction. Durham university has applied to the Universities Funding Council for a campus in Middlesbrough, to be run jointly with Teesside polytechnic, while another group is planning a private university in the Highlands.

The latest scheme has been put forward by the Confederation of British Industry in Lincolnshire to help to boost the economy of the East Midlands. The group is also trying to establish a city technology college in Lincoln.



DENZIL McNEELANCE

Street fashion: An emerald shot-silk taffeta ball gown with tulip skirt from the spring and summer collection of Sir Hardy Amies. Sir Hardy revealed his collection in the garden of Coutts, the bankers, in The Strand, central London. The collection was shown on a tree-lined catwalk with 24 models in 75 outfits ranging from dressy day clothes to cocktail and evening wear. The daywear includes the simplest of navy dresses in lightweight wool crepe, with the fashion being for shapely long jackets and soft shoulders. Sir Hardy, who said that couture was "once again the most intelligent way to dress", added that he was now able to offer modern, fashionable clothes for men, "made to the highest standards of bespoke Savile Row tailoring".

Motorists want the best of all worlds

By KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S 21 million motorists want action to cut traffic jams but are opposed to measures such as road pricing which would restrict their freedom.

The dilemma facing the government over how to deal with traffic congestion was underlined by a report yesterday which showed that measures to take vehicles off the roads or to bar them from towns and cities would anger large numbers of motorists. However, a Mori survey of more than 1,500 drivers for the Lex Report on Motoring 1991 found that such measures as raising petrol prices and introducing toll roads would reduce traffic.

Forty three per cent of drivers said they would reduce visits to town centres if they were charged £3 each time, 12 per cent said they would stop such visits altogether and two per cent would get rid of their vehicles. Only 16 per cent would pay happily. Mori calculated that journeys into towns and cities could be cut by a million cars a day if drivers reacted to measures as they indicated they would in the survey.

If the government raised taxes on petrol to increase its cost by a half, 58 per cent of drivers said they would reduce their regular motoring. Only 17 per cent would carry on as before. Complete bans on driving in town centres would deter 41 per cent of drivers from taking their vehicles into town at all, and licences to allow drivers into central zones of cities would keep away 37 per cent.

Drivers understand the problems of pollution, according to the Lex Report, but most want to own more cars and be allowed to drive when and where they like. They were happy to accept unleaded petrol, catalytic convertors, which soak up exhaust fumes, and bigger government subsidies on public transport. But most did not want toll roads, higher petrol and car taxes, new speed limits or charges on city-centre driving.

Forty per cent of the motorists said they would use public transport more if it improved. But only nine per cent already used it to go to work and 12 per cent during leisure time. People said they were reluctant to rely on public transport because of high fares and the length of time taken.

Mori found that an average driver wasted one-and-a-half hours a week because of congestion. Drivers travelling more than 20,000 miles a year wasted three hours ten minutes. The organisation expects the number of cars on the roads to rise by almost two million by 1992 as two-car households increase from 34 per cent of the total to 39 per cent.

☐ Motor manufacturers and analysts are reducing this year's sales estimates after a poor start and the prospect of a long war damaging business confidence.

Salomon Brothers, the UK equity research group, is warning investors that early predictions of sales of 1.9 million new cars this year should be changed to 1.76 million, about 12 per cent below 1990 sales, which were 12.7 per cent down on the previous year.

The forecast comes in the wake of new car sales figures for the first 20 days of January, which fell by 27,506 cars to 26.3 per cent below the same period last year.

The Lex Report on Motoring 1991; (Lex Service Plc, Lex House, 17 Connaught Place, London W2 2EL. £150)

Leading article, page 15

Motorist jailed for driving at warden

A motorist who drove at a traffic warden as she tried to write down his registration number was sent to jail yesterday.

Susan Concar had noticed Andrew Gardener's car parked outside a bank in a pedestrian zone at Stafford. But when Mrs Concar began to note the car's number, Gardener revved the car engine and drove at her, hitting her on the knees, Stafford crown court was told. The warden backed away but Gardener drove at her, again hitting her knees.

Gardener, aged 21, of New Street, Stafford, who pleaded guilty to wanton and furious driving, was jailed for four months and banned from driving for a year.

Salmonella death rate rises slightly

There were 48 deaths from salmonella poisoning in the first nine months of last year, according to the government's Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. That compares with 61 deaths in the whole of 1989 and 58 in 1988. Figures from the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre show that 25,387 human cases of salmonella poisoning were reported up to December 21 of last year, a slight increase on the 25,133 recorded over the same period of 1989. Eggs and poultry are most frequently identified as the cause of infection, but in 80 per cent of cases the source is unknown.

Pig-farming plea

A 378,000-signature petition calling for an end to intensive pig-rearing systems is to be presented to John Gummer, the agriculture minister, today. The petition, organised by the animal rights group, Compassion in World Farming, urges the government to phase out over five years neck and girth tethers and narrow stalls used to confine pregnant sows.

Children at risk

More than 50,000 children are at risk of serious injury because of dangerous conditions in overcrowded temporary bed-and-breakfast accommodation for the homeless, a report by the Child Accident Prevention Trust said yesterday.

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Closed trial for leader of Chinese protesters

From CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

WANG Dan, the student aged 25 who led the big demonstrations which culminated in the Tiananmen Square killings in June 1989, went on trial in Peking yesterday charged with counter-revolutionary propaganda and agitation.

It is the latest in a series of trials of dissidents. While several have received relatively light sentences of between two and four years, Mr Wang will almost certainly be punished more severely because of his high profile.



Wang Dan addressing protesters in 1989

Court officials would give no information on when sentencing would take place.

Notices outside the court refer to "open hearings", but in fact tickets are distributed to selected people and the proceedings are secret.

Those who are able to attend do not witness argument between defence and prosecution as in the West. In Chinese courts, no defence witnesses are called and there is no jury. The job of a defence lawyer is to plead for leniency, not to claim innocence.

Chen Rui, in charge of the reception office of the Supreme Court, told foreign journalists that they could not attend the trial because the alleged crime did not involve foreigners. He said that members of "the masses" had attended Mr Wang's trial, but could not say whether they included his family or university students.

For seven weeks, the skinny and bespectacled Mr Wang led up to a million demonstrators on marches. Power struggles raged among the student leaders, but more than a year and a half after the demonstrations were crushed, Mr Wang and Wuer Kaixi are still remembered. After the killings on June 4, Mr Wuer fled abroad. Mr Wang went into hiding and tried in vain to leave the country, as his name headed the government's most-wanted list. A month later he was arrested.

Only sketchy and often contradictory information has emerged about his treatment and his attitude to his captors. The first concrete information about his fate came with yesterday's announcement — on a small paper notice pinned to a board outside Peking's intermediate court — that court hearings had begun. At Peking University, where Mr Wang was a history student, students received news of the trial with indifference. They had apparently reverted, after a year and a half of political brainwashing, to the cynicism which is the norm in Chinese society.

Outside the ugly modern concrete court in the south of the city, journalists waited in gently falling snow. Bystanders were made nervous by the presence of large numbers of police. More than 11 years ago, a similar scene was enacted outside the same court when Wei Jingsheng went on trial for his part in the Democracy Wall Movement of 1979. Mr Wei is now serving a 15-year sentence and has become a symbol for human rights activists abroad.

The Chinese authorities are relieved that the Gulf war is distracting world attention from the dissident trials which have been going on for the past month. However, the authorities are disturbed by visits from activists from around the world who are calling for fair trials for political prisoners.

● **Hong Kong talks:** Sir David Wilson, the governor of Hong Kong, leaves China today after two days of talks which seem to have done little to ease the tensions between Peking and Hong Kong.

If there was a sign of progress, it was one of omission. During his hour-long meeting with Sir David, Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, did not repeat the claim that only Peking could represent the people of Hong Kong before 1997.



Forbidden city: a Chinese policeman trying to prevent an American television crew from filming yesterday outside the Peking court where Wang Dan's trial was being held. Foreign human rights activists have been expelled

Suttee stirs bitter debate

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

THE ancient ritual of suttee (widow burning), still secretly conducted in remote regions of Rajasthan, has become a controversial issue in northern India more than 160 years after the practice was banned during British rule.

The most eminent defender of the custom is Vijayaraje Scindia of the royal family of Gwalior, a prominent leader of the hardline Hindu organisation, the Bharatiya Janata Party. "A voluntary act of self-immolation by a widow in dedication to her husband does not constitute an offence," she has been quoted as saying.

The controversy intensified recently after Kalyan Kalvi, a member of the Indian cabinet, was accused of defending suttee. Eight women's organisations issued a joint demand for his dismissal. Although insisting that he was against suttee, he said: "Once it is done, what is the point of harassing innocent people? Once it is committed, certain rites must be done. Nobody can interfere with these rites."

The Indian parliament enacted legislation in 1987 banning all kinds of glorification of suttee and forbidding the erection of temples in honour of women who became suttees. Some defenders of the custom have argued that the law infringes the constitutional right to freedom of faith. Mrs Scindia said suttee was part of Hinduism and no woman should be deprived of her rights.

According to Mr Kalvi, who represents a Rajasthan constituency, there have probably been 22 cases of suttee since independence. It has most commonly been practised by members of the Rajputs, an ancient high-caste martial community that wields substantial political power in Rajasthan.

Suttee is respected by many Rajputs, who defend it on the ground that it is a strictly voluntary act of devotion by a grieving widow. It is difficult for politicians, who depend on Rajput support, to criticise the practice.

The government is resisting demands for the dismissal of Mr Kalvi, who was appointed energy minister in the government of Chandra Shekhar, the prime minister who came to power in November. Women's groups said that his denial of support for suttee was "blatantly false".

Asked for his view, he is reported to have said: "Beliefs are hard to kill. Some worship trees, others dogs, rats in temples and even donkeys."

Suttee was first banned in 1829 in response to demands by Indian reformists and Christian missionaries. It is believed to have originated in Vedic times, although it was not positively recorded until 510AD. Although, supposedly voluntary, there were times when widows were expected to commit suttee or face a lifetime of degradation in widowhood.

The last known case was in September 1987, when sword-wielding Rajput youths surrounded a widow, Roop Kanwar, as she walked to her husband's cremation ground and jumped onto his burning pyre in Deorala, Rajasthan. Whether she committed the act voluntarily remains in dispute.

Bal Singh Rathor, her father, who did not attend the immolation, told reporters a year after her death that she had decided to commit suttee despite attempts by relatives to dissuade her.

Press reports at the time variously quoted witnesses as saying she was frothing at the mouth as she approached the pyre, or alternatively smiling and calm. A shrine now stands in her honour, in which people offer prayers in front of her photograph. Despite the law, the authorities have obviously decided not to pull the temple down.

Liberals face split on Quebec's future

From JOHN BEST IN OTTAWA

BATTLE lines are being drawn in the dispute over Quebec's future relationship with the rest of Canada. A second referendum may be held in the predominantly French-speaking province to help decide whether it should stay part of Canada or become a sovereign state.

Beleaguered federalists were heartened recently when Robert Bourassa, the Liberal premier, returned to work after two months' treatment for skin cancer. Mr Bourassa, aged 57, is generally regarded as their champion, although even he would like to see links with Ottawa becoming looser, and the federal government yielding more power to Quebec and the other nine provinces.

Mr Bourassa is due to authorise the release of a Liberal party committee's draft constitutional policy by the end of this month, which is widely reported to call for a referendum next year.

Separatists on the committee had been pushing for a referendum this year to capitalise on the nationalist fervour sweeping the province.

Opinion polls in Quebec have repeatedly shown a majority in favour of some form of sovereignty. This is partly the result of lingering resentment over last year's collapse of a plan to bring Quebec under the national constitution, from which it has been isolated since 1982. The carefully crafted plan fell to pieces when Manitoba and Newfoundland failed to ratify it by last June's deadline.

The Liberal constitutional draft reportedly seeks to weaken Quebec's federal ties. Federalist ministers in Mr Bourassa's cabinet are fighting to have the proposals watered down, and it may take all of Mr Bourassa's diplomatic skills to avert a party split.

The enigmatic and politically astute Mr Bourassa has espoused radical change. Last August, he endorsed a policy document prepared by his party's youth wing calling for "full political autonomy" for Quebec within a nationwide economic community. In Germany a year ago, Mr Bourassa commended European-style "super-structures" as a possible model for Canada.

Mr Bourassa would prefer not to commit himself just yet on a referendum. He wants to wait at least until a 36-member commission, established by the provincial legislature to study the independence issue, makes its report at the end of March.

A 1980 referendum on independence caused deep divisions in Quebec society. It was sponsored by the separatist Parti Quebecois, in power at the time, and the those against won by a 60-40 margin. However, the results could be radically different next time — if Mr Bourassa decides that there is to be a next time.

Tamil raid kills 27 Sinhalese villagers

From VIJITHA YAPA IN COLOMBO

SRI Lankan Tamil separatists killed 27 villagers, including 22 women and children, of the majority Sinhalese community in the village of Bogamuyaya in eastern Amparai district, and wounded 10 more in an early morning attack.

Security sources said that about 300 members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrilla group attacked the villagers with axes, knives and guns soon after a raid on a police and army checkpoint. They set fire to a police post and some houses.

The Tigers, who claim the island's Eastern province as a homeland for the minority Tamils, have been attacking the Sinhalese and Muslims in an attempt to drive them out since last June. On December 31, the Tigers unilaterally declared a ceasefire and the government responded cautiously by suspending its own offensive for ten days.

But repeated violations led to a government decision to resume operations, saying that, for peace talks to be held, the Tigers must lay down their arms and their leader, Velupillai Prabhakaran, must come for talks instead of sending his deputies. This week the separatists attacked four army camps in Northern province.

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Winning over minorities is litmus test for Baltic independence

From ANATOL LIEVEN IN VILNIUS

THE key issue to the long-term future and stability of the Baltic republics as independent states lies not in resolving the predictable, hostile response from the Soviet hardliners, but in bridging lasting relations between the indigenous Baltic populations and the local Russian and Polish residents.

So far, most Baltic nationalists have preferred to ignore these facts at their peril. A campaign of provocation and murder by the Soviet army and communist hardliners can only continue to alienate Balts and ethnic Russians, and scuttle chances for real independence for Latvia and Estonia. With 48 per cent and 39 per cent Russian-speaking populations respectively in both republics, stability in the future will become quite impossible.

Even in Lithuania, where Russians and Poles make up only about 20 per cent of the population, the ethnic question is crucial. The Poles and Russians are concentrated in the south of the republic, and around the capital, Vilnius. Poles, Russians and Belorussians make up almost half of the population of the city.

The Russian and Polish workers have been at the forefront of recent protests against attempts by the independent-minded Lithuanian government to raise food prices. The demonstrations, orchestrated by the Communist party, helped to bring down the government of Kazimiera Prunskiene, the prime minister, earlier this month. As in Latvia and Estonia, the great bulk of the Russians and Poles in Lithuania are from the poorer sections of the labour force, and resent the nationalist movements. Some Polish workers in the industrial town of New Vilnius demanded yesterday why their wages had not risen when those of the intelligentsia had as a result of Lithuanian nationalist rule.

However, educated Poles take their lead from Warsaw, which is supportive of the drive for Lithuanian independence, and back the campaign. All that they hope for is that Vilnius will understand their particular concerns.

Two days ago, Jacek Kuron, a veteran Solidarity campaigner, declared to the Lithuanian parliament that legislators from Poland will always be present in their parliament, ready to die alongside their Lithuanian counterparts in the event of a Soviet attack.

However, the response of the Polish and Russian workers to increasing prices supports the fear of many Baltic analysts that the worsening economic situation will harden ethnic opposition to independence. They blame Mrs Prunskiene for introducing price prices. The critics argue that she would have been wiser to have waited until economic reform in Russia and Belorussia made it apparent to workers here that they are better off. In the long run, economic collapse in Russia will probably provide the best chance that Russian workers in the Baltic will come around to accepting independence.

Polish workers in New Vilnius yesterday mostly attacked the recent attempts at compromise with the Lithuanian government by the eight Polish deputies in the parliament. A majority of these were elected on the Communist ticket. But since the recent Soviet army action in which 14 people were killed, all but one of the deputies have joined a Polish faction, determined to defend ethnic Poles' interests. Even before the military action, these deputies had declared their solidarity with the Lithuanian struggle for freedom.

One of the deputies, Zbigniew Balcewicz, was elected to parliament with the support of the Sajudis independence movement. He said yesterday that despite their declaration of solidarity with the Lithuanain government, there has been still no serious response from the government to various Polish demands. These include a strengthening of Polish educational facilities and the creation of one administrative region covering all the Polish-dominated areas of Lithuania. Mr Balcewicz said that the centre bloc in the parliament, including the former independent Lithuanian Communist party and Sajudis moderates, is sympathetic to Polish concerns. However, he is afraid of the hostile attitude of Sajudis radicals, who appear to dominate the new Lithuanian government of Gedyminas Vagnoris.

Mr Balcewicz said that if Polish demands were not met, he feared a negative result in Polish areas in the referendum on independence next month being organised by the Lithuanian government. He said that "the Poles are at a point where there must be some steps from the Lithuanian side, or the population could swing over to Lithuania's enemies. At the moment, the conflict in Lithuania is still more social than national, but this could quickly be changed". Mr Balcewicz criticised Archbishop Julijonas Steponavicius of Vilnius, whom he described as "that obstinate old man", for rejecting a suggestion from the Polish faction for a joint Lithuanian and Polish "mass of solidarity" at Vilnius cathedral.

If the Poles and Lithuanians are totally alienated, the Poles, who form 7.5 per cent of the population of Lithuania, face the question of with whom their areas should be linked. Many Russians and Belorussians have declared that the Vilnius region should join Soviet Belorussia. Poles, however, know full well that they are treated even worse in Belorussia than in Lithuania.

Once lords over both these lands, the lot of the ill-educated, ill-fed Polish workers is not a happy one, making them tools to be manipulated by the enemies of Baltic independence.

Letters, page 15

Soviet troops seize control of key Vilnius newsprint store

From ANATOL LIEVEN IN VILNIUS

UNOPPOSED Soviet troops yesterday occupied the main Lithuanian paper warehouse in Vilnius. Representatives of the local Soviet Communist party, accompanied by 25 soldiers with automatic weapons, declared that the building was party property and they were taking it over.

It is expected that the seized paper stocks will be used to print Communist newspapers at the main printing house, also in military hands, so making attempts by Lithuanians to continue publishing from smaller printing works even more difficult. The latest move is part of the Soviet strategy of strangling the Lithuanian media and putting pressure on Vilnius. Fourteen Lithuanians were killed when the military occupied the Baltic republic's television and radio stations.

The warehouse was unguarded, as are government buildings all over Vilnius, including those of the Lithuanian council of ministers. Lithuanian volunteers have been concentrating on guarding the parliament, which has been surrounded by formidable barricades of vehicles and concrete. Almost two weeks' continuous watch has taken its toll on the volunteers. They are far fewer guards than last week, and they look exhausted.

The lack of guards around government buildings means that there are still opportunities for the Soviet army to cripple further the workings of the Lithuanian administration without committing itself to a bloody and diplomatically disastrous assault on the parliament.

RIGA: President Gorbunovs, head of the embattled Latvian pro-independence administration which local Communists want to see overthrown, claimed yesterday to have been given a breathing space by President Gorbachev in his efforts to solve the republic's political impasse (Bruce Clark writes). However, he made it clear that he would not yield to the Soviet leader's demand that the Latvian parliament reverse its decision of May 4 last year to restore the republic's pre-war independence after a transitional period.

Analysts said that Mr Gorbunovs would have been denounced by hardline proponents of Latvian independence, possibly to the point of losing all his authority, if he had agreed to President Gorbachev's proposal.

The Latvian leader insisted that, contrary to reports in the official Soviet media, including Tass, the idea of imposing direct presidential rule from Moscow had not been on the agenda of his talks with the Kremlin leadership.

Mr Gorbunovs insisted that he had won promises from the Moscow leadership, including President Gorbachev, to investigate the activities of Omon Soviet commandos, who turned central Riga into a battlefield last Sunday when they seized the interior ministry, from which police loyal to the Latvian government had been receiving orders. Today's funeral of the four victims is expected to precipitate a vast outpouring of Latvian nationalist sentiment.

Bruce Clark, page 14
Letters, page 15

Croatians defiant on arms ruling

Belgrade — Tension remained high in Croatia and Slovenia despite reassurances from the Yugoslav presidency that the army would not be called in to suppress the rebellious republics (Dessa Trevisan writes).

As the deadline expired for owners of illegal arms to hand in their weapons, Stipe Mesic, who represents Croatia in the state presidency, said: "There is no danger of a military option." However, police in Croatia were out in force and the order to disarm was described as being only partially obeyed. The republics have been pursuing independence since they ousted the Communist leaderships in democratic elections.

Rebels attack

Nairobi — Rwanda's simmering four-month civil war erupted again as rebels of the Patriotic Front crossed the Ugandan border and engaged government troops, capturing the northern provincial capital of Ruhengeri. France said it was considering deploying paratroops from Kigali, the capital, to protect about 50 French citizens caught in the area.

Unrest in Mali

Bamako — Tanks were deployed in the Malian capital, and all schools in the country were ordered shut after two days of the most serious anti-government rioting since independence. There were unconfirmed reports of four dead in riots which began on Monday. Mali is one of the few remaining black African states that has not given in to demands for multiparty politics. *(Reuter)*

Chernobyl aid

Geneva — The World Health Organisation has endorsed an international plan to help victims of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Proposals include setting up an international centre for radiation health problems, to provide and monitor health care for people exposed to radiation by the Chernobyl disaster, and working out guidelines for dealing with future nuclear accidents. *(Reuter)*

Train held

Bangkok — Kachin guerrillas fighting for regional autonomy seized a train in northern Burma, killing a soldier and two passengers and taking the two drivers hostage. The official Rangoon radio, monitored here, said two soldiers were injured in the attack in Kachin state, 600 miles north of Rangoon. *(Reuter)*

Security scare

Brussels — Belgian police, fire brigade and army bomb-disposal units went on alert here after a man stormed into the building next to the American library, threw a petrol bomb and fired a shotgun. Police later said it was not an attack linked to the Gulf war but the revenge of a man angry at being sacked. *(Reuter)*



Lost savings: Galina Mors, a Moscow pensioner, showing her worthless 50 and 100 rouble notes which she was unable to change at her local bank yesterday. Tough new Soviet monetary curbs started panic runs on savings banks from Siberia to the Baltics, and anxious crowds tried to get rid of high-denomination notes. Disaster strikes, page 1; Leading article, page 15

Strike hits flights at Tallinn airport

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

AIRCRAFT of the Estonian airlines were grounded at Tallinn airport yesterday, after airport employees staged a one-day strike, according to Tass.

The news agency said the strike was in protest against low pay, inadequate housing and price rises, and that further action would be considered if the demands were not met. Tass did not say whether aircraft of the national airline, Aeroflot, were affected.

The strike follows reports in the official media of industrial unrest in Estonia over the past week. A strike at Vilnius airport in Lithuania and more general industrial disruption in the republic preceded the army intervention at the Vilnius television tower on January 13. Tallinn airport, like that at Vilnius, is staffed largely by ethnic Russians and the leader of the strike committee, Vasili Maksimov, has a Russian name.

A second Tass report spoke of a bomb threat at the Estonian parliament yesterday, which appeared to have been a hoax. It quoted an Estonian government statement as saying that "criminal forces in Estonia, as in the other Baltic republics, have gone on to the offensive".

It appealed to the population for vigilance and offered a reward for information leading to the apprehension of terrorists. Tallinn has experienced a series of small night-time explosions over the past week.

Polish hopes rise for 40% write-off in foreign debt bill

From ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

WESTERN governments seem set to write off a big chunk of Poland's huge foreign debt, easing some of the strains on its economic reforms. According to reports from Warsaw, Paris and New York yesterday, the Paris Club, grouping Western creditor nations, is ready to forgive 40 per cent of Poland's debt.

Poland owes a total of $46.6 billion (£24.5 billion) to the West, $37.3 billion of which is due to the governments reprsented by the Paris Club. The rest is owed to commercial banks grouped in the London Club.

President Walesa had sent a letter to the governments of the seven most industrialised nations, the G7 group, which met this week in New York. He had pressed Poland's case for an 80 per cent cut in debts. This was never entirely realistic.

Polish officials yesterday expressed themselves well satisfied with even the promised 40 per cent. Dr Dariusz Kosidlo of the finance ministry said: "It is a pleasant surprise for us — we thought the meeting in America was going to be a routine one. Lech Walesa had asked for an 80 per cent cut because only such a scale of debt forgiveness could help us to overcome completely the crisis — at present we are abie to pay off only between 12 and 20 per cent of our outstanding interest a year. If that continued, our debt would reach $100 billion by the year 2000."

It was, said Dr Kosidlo, a very useful first step. Warsaw economists assume that if the Paris Club endorses the G7 proposals for a reduction of government debt, then the commercial banks will follow suit. Poland last year won a one-year reprieve and was excused having to repay any interest until March 1991. That was a political gesture in support of the finance minister, Leszek Balcerowicz, and his economic recovery plan.

This so far only partly successful plan envisaged a rapid move to the market, a switch to a hard, stable currency, widespread privatisation and the liberalisation of foreign trade. After the election of President Walesa last month, and some initial difficulty in forming a new government, there was considerable nervousness among Western creditors.

But the government of Jan Krzsztof Bielecki is strongly market-liberal in tone, and Professor Balcerowicz kept his post. The fear in Poland was that a cumulative crisis would throw the economy out of gear. From January 1 Poland, like other East European countries, has to pay hard currency for its oil and gas supplies from the Soviet Union.

The Gulf war, according to a report yesterday by the Institute of the National Economy, will add another one to two billion dollars to the oil bill and prompt a drop of up to 3 per cent in gross national product. If renewed interest and debt repayments were added to these problems, the economy could well crack under the strain.

The initial leaks of a debt write-off have come from France. The French finance minister, Pierre Bérégovoy, returning from the G7 meeting in New York, noted that there was political agreement on cutting the debts both of Poland and Egypt.

The gesture towards Egypt reflects American gratitude for the deployment of 45,000 soldiers within the multi national anti-Saddam coalition. "The concrete steps will be generous because of the significance we attach to the cases of these two countries," M Bérégovoy said.

The United States has been more cautious and was a little unhappy yesterday about the French indiscretions. The decision to write off Polish debt can only be taken at the Paris Club, which includes many smaller creditor nations.They may well haggle over the 40 per cent figure put into play by the French.

Delors digs in on trade clash with America

From GEORGE BROCK IN STRASBOURG

EUROPE will not change its negotiating stance in the world trade talks, which are currently stalled because of disagreement with America over farming subsidies.

Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, made this clear when he spoke to the European parliament yesterday on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) talks. He said that the community had made comprehensive proposals, but that the "atmosphere" in the negotiations — and counter-proposals — had prevented agreement.

He indicated that America was seen to be concentrating unreasonably on agriculture, and was biased against Europe. He also described the EC's attempts to reform the common agricultural policy, but did not link them to the Gatt timetable, which requires progress before the end of next month.

He said that the principles of the policy — a single market, help for small farmers and community preference — were "unchangeable". He added that the "social and human balance of our societies depend on the farming world".

M Delors said that a moment of truth had arrived for the Social Charter, an ambitious attempt to set Europe-wide standards for worker protection. Luxembourg, which holds the current EC presidency, intends to test the commitment of each national government, with Britain and Spain most strongly opposed to the charter.

His speech gave no comfort to the economies of Eastern Europe, which are negotiating wide-ranging agreements with the community and hoping that they might eventually be admitted to membership.

M Delors said that the community must develop the links which bind it to "other Europeans".

● **BRUSSELS:** The European Community Commission said yesterday that it had allowed France to extend quotas on imports from other EC member states of some Asian colour televisions and car radios for six months.

The commission said France will be allowed an import quota of 42,000 South Korean colour televisions from other EC countries up to June 30, 1991.

In addition, the commission said France will be allowed to hold imports of South Korean produced car radio receivers from the rest of the 12-nation trade bloc at 434,000 during the first six months of this year. *(AP)*

NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Charles Bremner

Thrill-seeking teenagers turn to deadlier stunts

In the old days, boys in New York would show off their bravado by hopping on to the back bumpers of buses or grabbing bicycle tows from passing lorries. With sudden death now a commonplace, teenagers have lately taken to more lethal ways of finding thrills.

The authorities are alarmed about a craze for two new variations of the old game of "chicken". These are "elevator surfing" and "tracking". Four boys have been killed in the past few months, crushed by the machinery of the lifts they were "surfing" in high-rise housing estates in the Bronx and Brooklyn.

The idea of the game is to climb on to the roof of the lift, stand upright and ride it up and down the shaft to the admiration of others who watch through the cage. Police have been visiting schools with graphic descriptions of the dangers.

"Tracking" is an even more hair-raising way of passing the time. Youths try to run through subway tunnels from one station to another without being hit by passing trains. If one comes, the runner jumps to an empty track, but sometimes only at the last moment. The object is to force the driver to stop the train before impact. In a common variation familiar to commuters, teenagers cross the tracks from one platform to another, sometimes lingering until a train nears the station. The game is far more dangerous in New York than it would be in London because express tracks mean many stations have four parallel lines. Non-stop trains can roar through stations, drowning the sound of approaching "locals".

Earlier this month, police reported the first confirmed tracking death — that of Jean Guerrier, aged 14, who slipped as he was scrambling out of the way of a train at Union Square, on the edge of Greenwich Village. But the subway authorities believe there may have been victims of tracking among the 60 people killed by trains in the past year.

Tracking, according to its practitioners, amounts to a rite of passage and a way to impress the girls for thousands of young New Yorkers. Subway police are touring schools telling pupils of the risks of jousting with underground trains.

Yet another bizarre way of courting sudden death has been discerned in New York this winter. The dare is to don a certain type of coat which marks the wearer for attack. In the vicious gun culture that pervades America's big cities, teenagers have been murdering each other



for fashion for some time. In Los Angeles, the issue is usually a colour that identifies the wearer with some gang. Elsewhere it has usually involved combat over gold chains or other expensive items.

But in New York the sheepskin three-quarter-length coat, known locally as a shearling, has turned into a blood trophy. In the past eight weeks, at least 16 youths have been shot for them, six fatally. Shops are refusing to stock them and the school authority has come close to banning them.

"These coats are cool," said John Wardell, aged 16, from Brooklyn, who was trying to explain why he sported a coat that marked him as a target for death. "It says you got class and you don't care who knows it."

The school board decided against a ban because it feared that the craze would simply pass to another item of fashion, and so on until pupils would eventually be left with nothing to wear.

Still on the subject of crime, but far higher in the underworld pecking order, the desire of federal prosecutors to win the conviction of John Gotti, the alleged chieftain of the New York Mafia, is so strong that they have resorted to a rare and, some would say, underhand tactic: they want the judge to disqualify his defence lawyer. Bruce Cutler is one of the tougher and more flamboyant defenders in a city of celebrated legal aces. He has won Mr Gotti three acquittals in the past five years.

Mr Gotti, alias the Dapper Don, is to stand trial on charges of racketeering and murder this spring. Bull-necked and bald, Mr Cutler, aged 42, who served six years as a junior prosecutor, exudes a ferocity that sends police witnesses cowering. "Brucifixion" is what court regulars call a cross-examination at his hands.

Old fires lick at Germany

Daniel Johnson

Nine years ago, most Germans smiled indulgently at the Falklands war. The Gulf war, however, seems to have brought a deep German trauma to the surface: the spectre of Dresden. As Chancellor Kohl said yesterday, explaining the Germans' reluctance to become involved in the Gulf: "If you walk down any street in any town, in every other house there would be someone who had lost a relative . . . in the two world wars."

Britain embarked on war last week with fewer qualms than any of its allies, but Germany responded with something very like the symptoms of shock. Huge demonstrations swept the country, and the peace movement of the early 1980s, moribund after the opening of the Berlin wall, was resurrected almost overnight. Jewish leaders have expressed alarm at the virulence of anti-Zionism among the demonstrators. To risk such accusations, German feelings against the war must run very deep.

Even among those who know better, emotion predominated. Though he has since called repeatedly for "solidarity" with the Americans and British, in his first reaction Chancellor Kohl could feel nothing but "dismay". The chancellor rarely lowers his guard, but this time his public attitude caught the national mood.

To be sure, most of these symptoms are not unique to Germany. Anti-war demonstrations, often violent and almost always anti-American; indignant speeches in parliament; candle-lit vigils by pacifist clergymen — all this has happened in Britain, too. But not on such a huge scale. Opinion polls show that a majority of Germans understands the reasons for the war, but that opposition to German involvement in any form is overwhelming. In the Saarland, civil servants at two ministries were "advised" to take part in anti-war demonstrations by the Social Democrat regional government of Oskar Lafontaine, Herr Kohl's defeated challenger.

> 'Only the collective memory of Dresden can explain the vehemence of German repugnance for this war'

The opposition is certainly strong enough to make the centre-right coalition government squirm. On the morning after war broke out, Herr Kohl's most popular message to the nation was: "German soldiers will not be deployed in the Gulf." By giving only lukewarm support to the war, but never caving in to the peace groups altogether, the Kohl strategy was to placate both domestic voters and Germany's allies. For once, Bonn miscalculated.

Sunday's state election in Hesse brought a sharp setback for the ruling coalition. The anti-war parties — Social Democrats and Greens — recovered from their disastrous showing in last December's federal election. These results present no immediate threat to Herr Kohl; but the propensity of Bonn coalitions to follow public opinion rather than lead it suggests that Germany may be a leading supporter of a ceasefire.

Bonn has fared no better with its allies. Having sent obsolete East German military hardware to America instead of the scrapyard, a handful of minesweepers to the Med and a squadron of aircraft to defend Turkey, the richest country in Europe reckoned it had paid its due. *Bild*, the German *Sun*, was flushed with pride at "*unsere Jungs*" (our boys) flying off to Anatolia. "Nobody has used that kind of language here since 1945," one prim young reader told me. From across the Atlantic, however, this pathetic show of Nato loyalism was unconvincing.

After a few days of war, indeed, the Germans have been forced to recognise that much of the credit their careful diplomacy has earned with Washington over the past two years has been dissipated. On Monday *Frankfurter Allgemeine* noted ruefully: "Forgotten is the euphoria with which America greeted German unification, when the Bush administration seemed to give Germany precedence as an ally even over Britain. Today Britain is again the Americans' favourite, while complaints about Germany and Japan are heard above all in Congress and the press." Since then, Herr Kohl has announced that further cash will be given: too little, too late.

The new German state may yet pay a heavy political price for its traumatic relationship with war. It is not easy to explain the violent revulsion that the German population, east as well as west, evidently feels towards this war. It is being prosecuted against a dictator of Hitlerian habits; it is supported by the United Nations; and the justifications advanced for it might be expected to satisfy even the most scrupulous moralist.

So what is the source of German distaste for what the Americans and British are doing? Now and then in Bonn the sirens are sounded. These are only tests, but for Germans, the frisson of this reminder — like a bell tolling for the dead of long ago — is palpable. No German city is without the scars of saturation bombing.

The collective internalised guilt deposited in every German conscience by the knowledge of what was done at Auschwitz has obliterated all feelings of sympathy for the perpetrators, but it has not wholly cancelled out a sense of outrage at the consumption by fire of German urban civilisation. Not only were hundreds of thousands of civilian lives lost in the razing of Hamburg and Berlin, of Cologne and Dresden: the Germans paid for their crimes with the loss of their national shrines.

Other European nations suffered similar desecration at the hands of the Nazis, and most Germans know there is no question of history singling them out for punishment — though the national vice of self-pity sometimes gives that impression. Yet resentment against the American and British bombing campaign is lodged deep in the German subconscious. Anxiety that the air raids over Iraq may not be the final act, but only the overture to a war which will eventually embrace Germany too, is irrational — but so is all national psychology. Only the collective memory of Dresden can explain the vehemence of German repugnance for this war.

Bruce Clark finds conspiracy in the air of Riga

A large plot in Latvia

With its ornate mouldings and marble staircases, the Latvian parliament feels like the town hall of a prosperous, slightly dull principality in central Europe. One half expects the endless news releases being typed by sensible Latvian-American women to be about municipal concerts or flower festivals. But they are not: they are about terrorist plots, killings by ruthless commandos in the pay of the Communist party, manoeuvres to push the republic to the brink of civil war.

In the cobbled streets outside parliament, thousands of volunteers are milling about, building walls of breeze-block, stone and sandbags to replace the barriers of trucks and bulldozers erected 12 days ago. Many of them are weather-beaten farmers who poured into the city bringing logs and food after the pro-independence government voiced fears that the repression in Lithuania would be repeated there.

At times last week, amid the relief that paratroopers appeared to have abandoned plans for a full-scale assault on central Riga, there was a carnival mood behind the barricades. But since Sunday night, when the seizure by Communist-financed Omon commandos of Latvia's police headquarters turned central Riga into a nordic Beirut, the atmosphere has grown more dour. To the smell of woodsmoke has been added the stench of conspiracy.

From last month's spate of professionally made small bombs, supposedly directed at Communist targets, to the growing agitation over price rises by Communist-backed trade unions, to the deadlock in parliament and the savage killings by Omon fighters: all the main recent events in Latvia are most easily explicable as the unfolding of a well-laid plot. Latvian deputies believe it has been under way at least since November and that its backers are to be found in the upper echelons of the Communist party, the Interior Ministry and the KGB, though not the army.

The initial aim of the plot appears to have been the suppression of the pro-independence governments elected this spring in all three Baltic republics. This was to be achieved by playing on discontent among the republics' Slav minorities, which in Latvia's case amounts to nearly half the population, thereby forcing Moscow to intervene.

Many Latvians are convinced that despite the events in Lithuania, which may have reflected a last-minute decision to exploit internal squabbles there over economic policy, the mischief-makers' foremost target is still Riga. Why should Latvia have been singled out? With its abundant food supply, fertile soil, polluted but still effective beaches, and strategically important location, it is a choice piece of real estate. Soviet servicemen like to retire there, and when you compare the supply of consumer goods with other parts of the Soviet Union, it is easy to see why.

Latvia is also home to some of the Soviet Union's most formidable conservatives. One is Alfreds Rubiks, the ruthless Latvian Communist party chief who has been smarting for revenge since the elections of last spring. While he denies persistent allegations that he is the head of the Omon fighters, he acknowledges that his party pays the commando squad money to guard a printing house which they recently seized at the party's behest. Another is Boris Pugo — the former Latvian KGB chief who is now Soviet interior minister; a third is Colonel Viktor Alksnis, who openly calls for dictatorship.

And there are plenty of social as well as ethnic conflicts in Latvia for it to be exploited by those with a stake in disorder. Rubiks' natural constituency is formed by the hordes of ill-educated Russian workers in big Moscow-controlled factories, where Latvians are often barred from working for security reasons.

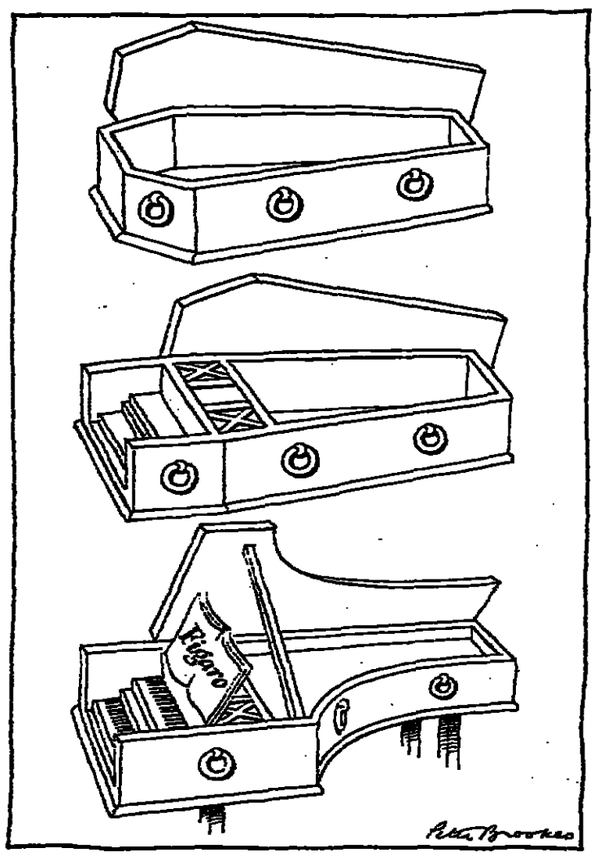
From the point of view of Latvia's long-standing residents, be they members of the multi-ethnic Riga intelligentsia or ethnic Latvian farmers manning the barricades, the Russian workers and soldiers who have poured into the republic in recent years are leeches on its modest prosperity. Purchases in the local economy by servicemen and immigrant workers act as a drain on the local economy, because all prices are locally subsidised.

From the conspirators' point of view, moves by the pro-independence government late last year to restrict the access of servicemen to housing, education and health provision were a golden opportunity. Many Latvian nationalists would now admit that these moves were a mistake.

Rubiks and his men now quote the alleged misdeeds and excesses of the pro-independence government with glee, as though they justify almost any degree of intervention. But many of the deputies holed up in the attractive little building in the heart of Riga are convinced that their fate does not really depend on their behaviour. If the plot is taken to its successful conclusion, fault will be found with the nationalists and they will be overthrown. Only if the plot stumbles will Latvian democracy live another day.

Mozart always wins the war

Bernard Levin finds musical solace in time of strife and a testament to the limits of death's dominion



An ancient Russian proverb says: "When the cannons are silent, the muses are heard; when the muses are silent, the cannons are heard." Once in a rare while, though, they make a fearsome counterpoint, and the baying of the hounds of blood mingles with the airs and sweet sounds that give delight and hurt not.

Perhaps there has never been a more profound and terrible experience of the coming together of death and art than what happened, during the second world war, in Terizen. Terizen, more usually known by its German name, Theresienstadt, was one of the Nazi concentration camps, but a special kind. For some time it was a "Potemkin" camp, used for propaganda, including films, and for that reason conditions in it, though harsh, were much better than in most of the other cities of hell. But the credulous neutrals who saw the camp or the films did not know that as more men and women were sent there, the numbers were kept stable by a regular delivery to Auschwitz.

Most of the inmates were Czechoslovak Jews, and these included a substantial number of musicians. The commandant of the camp, himself a music-lover (artistic folk, the Germans), allowed the doomed musicians to rehearse and perform; one of their highlights was *The Bartered Bride*, another the Verdi Requiem. (There is a tradition — I hope it is true — that in the middle of the performance one of the musicians abandoned Verdi's score and began to sound the four notes which begin Beethoven's fifth symphony, the phrase which had been adopted as the call-sign of freedom.) The members of the orchestra all knew that they had no hope of rescue or reprieve, and they did not imagine their heroic dance on the cliff of death would be noted and remembered. Yet the instruments of the condemned orchestra spoke for history, and can still be heard over the cries of evil, be they never so loud.

Here I must cross a very frail bridge. Last Sunday evening, I went to the Royal Festival Hall to hear a concert performance of *The Marriage of Figaro*, conducted by Sir Georg Solti. The chasm between the music in Terizen and my joyous evening in a warm, bright hall, followed by my safe and simple return home, is grotesquely wide, and the bridge is very frail. But I had to cross it because, you see, another of the performances by the condemned of Terezin was *Figaro* itself.

And death shall have no dominion. I had left for the Festival Hall with the latest news of the Gulf war in my ears, and I could not but reflect that as the number of bombing raids increased, however precise the aim, human beings, including women and children, would be killed. Some of those would die in agony, their innards ripped from their bodies, their eyeballs melted, their legs smashed; the very crews of the planes which delivered such death might be burnt alive in their aircraft, as the tanks, when the ground offensive begins, will for some become ovens in which they are roasted.

Did those reflections destroy my pleasure at what turned out to be one of the finest of the 70-odd performances of *Figaro* I have ever heard? No; indeed my evening was grounded in a way that made the work even more profound and moving than Mozart invariably and eternally is.

There is war in *Figaro*; Cherubino is called up in Act One, and Figaro tries to make his blood run cold with the prospects, but of course the *farfallone amoroso* is never going to get the smell of gunpowder in his nostrils; directors of the opera who make him truly frightened at the prospect have misunderstood Mozart. The war in *Figaro* takes place not on the battlefield but in the human heart, where the *concerto di tromboni, di bombarde, di cannoni* rages for ever, or at least until the true peace of full understanding is signed by all the High Contracting Parties.

Meanwhile, though we must not be so foolish as to think that if Saddam Hussein could be persuaded to listen to *Figaro* he would come out with his hands up (Hitler was devoted to *The Merry Widow*), we must not fall into the opposite trap and allow ourselves to believe that art can offer no more practical service than consolation. It is not just a romantic fancy of mine to believe that Mozart changed the world, even though I suppose that most of the people in the world have never heard, or heard of, *Figaro*. The scientists tell us that matter is ultimately indestructible, however many times it changes its forms, and it is no great leap to the belief that the same is true of sounds.

Mozart dealt in truth, and nothing in his work, not even *The Magic Flute* or the Jupiter symphony, demonstrates his dealing more clearly and deeply than *Figaro* does. Remember: it is the only one of his operas in which no character is a symbol, but everyone and everything is real and of perfect human scale. Remember also that it is the only one of his operas that starts and finishes in a single day, from sunrise in a homely room to sunset in a stately garden. The souls of the characters have been laid bare, and the reconciliation in which it finishes is not just a happy ending: it is a testimony to a truth more glorious even than the earthly truth of the harmony in which the story and the opera finish.

Shaffer's Salieri instantly recognised that Mozart was a conduit through which God's truth entered the world. And Salieri knew also, and as immediately, that the work which demonstrated most clearly this breathtaking truth ("Whatever else shall pass away, this will not . . .") was this tiny tale of human beings which flowers in that single day into a tree under which all humanity can shelter.

That does not help with Saddam Hussein. But goodness and beauty, particularly goodness and beauty touched by an eternal hand, have a literally miraculous quality: they can spread independently of any human agent. The very fact that an extra item of goodness and beauty has entered the world makes the world better, even if nobody knows that it has entered.

I make so bold as to claim that the men and women of Terezin would have understood what I am saying. They were murdered, hideously. But, after all, they had always known that they were human. Their defiance of death and evil did not mean that they might escape mortality; it was an affirmation which said that music could and does so. The performance of *The Bartered Bride* announced that their blood, even as it was shed, was Czechoslovak and Jewish blood, and they were proud of it; the performance of the Verdi Requiem announced that man must learn to die as well as live; but the performance of *The Marriage of Figaro* announced that although five sparrows are sold for two farthings, not one of them is forgotten before God.

"Men must endure their going hence, even as their coming hither; ripeness is all." There will be death in the Gulf, and hypocrisy, and a kind of justice; after all, the commandant of Terizen was hanged. But beyond the furthest stars, where love alone rules, all earthly stains, be they of blood or tears, are expunged. *Figaro* abides.

...and moreover

Clement Freud

Restaurants in the Soup is the banner headline over an article in this week's *Time Out*; readers are told of Mark Shepherd's Maxies restaurant in Camden — "a new and modestly priced doughnut diner" (could doughnut diners be priced otherwise?) which is achieving survival by having reduced the number of employees from five to one part-timer. It would have been interesting to learn how this affected the clientele; *Time Out* is not saying.

Mr Egon Ronay, a garden-gnome of a man whom I used to fear greatly when I earned my living as a purveyor of liquor and comestibles to the inebriated of London SW3, has written in the *Sunday Express* about the effects of recession on the hotel and restaurant industry: room occupancy is plunging towards 40 per cent; restaurants are going to the wall. He looks into his glass and sees acres of table linen kept pristine by a near-terminal dearth of bottoms on chairs. What is needed, suggests the eponymous ex-guidester, is a radical new pricing scheme, and he calls for 100 enlightened caterers to lead the charge into the valley of fiscal restraint. This is in line with the laws of consumerism which decree that every article will find a purchaser if the price is sufficiently low. I would argue with that.

Mr Ronay calls for "price-slashing to convince the public that they can eat out." Well, they can do that now. In London and around the country there are places serving food and wine for two for under £15: the Stockpot in Knightsbridge springs to mind; Pizza Expresses; dining areas in public houses; Indian and Chinese restaurants . . . but of course the guru is not referring to these. His plan is for the great and over-priced establishments — and he is right, they are to be found in profusion — to accept the errors of their ways and embark on a route of halving the price of meals, making up consequent deficiencies by increasing turnover.

At the Savoy Grill last week, two of us ate a modest lunch: two starters, two dishes of the day, one green veg between us, a bottle of £16 wine and two cups of mint tea. The bill came to £91. Would I go back more often if they charged £65? Would there be twice as many people at half the price? The answer is in the negative. One goes to Savoy-like places because (a) you know that things are going to be undisastrous, (b) your guests will be impressed by the restaurant's quality and your generosity, and (c) they will make you feel good.

At the Stockpot you have to make yourself feel good principally by thinking about the bill and what it could have been had you gone elsewhere. The British restaurant-going public feels that real establishments should provide the lunacies they have come to expect, and nothing else will do. A cloakroom attendant must brush down their jackets, receptionists check empty day-books for reservations, the bad table to which they are taken substituted for a better one as a mark of esteem. The menu is preferably written in Serbo-Croat, with most items listed MP, meaning market price, denoting "we haven't yet decided how much we can get away with".

The sommelier's palimpsest should be open at the champagne page, and regardless of which part of Macclesfield he is from the waiter must speak with a marked French accent. Then, just as you are about to receive your main course, a man in a tall hat and shining white jacket appears to receive your enthusiastic appreciation of his cuisine and will not go away until you have offered him a glass of wine. How can a restaurant do all that and charge less than £18.75 for *Epigrammes de Mouton Parmentier aux Fines Herbes*, and would you want it to? The Stockpot calls this Irish Stew, £3.50. What a waste of time.

If Ronay gets his freedom-fighters and prices dip until such time as punters return, a respite might be gained, but it will not have addressed the cardinal problem of the industry: our treatment of the staff. Over the past decade British cooks have begun to emerge with honour, but the British waiter remains as rare as the British unicorn. Until we do something about that, make it clear that being of service is honourable (being servile is odious), train them and praise them and recognise their skills, also ask them to parties — when did you last meet a waiter as a party guest? — we have small chance of competing with the industry that can be found on the ever more accessible and affordable Continent.

Adair waits for the call

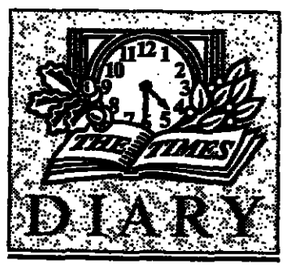
Red Adair, the trouble-shooter without whom no oilfield fire would be complete, has been put on stand-by to fly to the Gulf by the American State Department. Two three-man teams from Adair's company are ready to leave for Kuwait at a moment's notice, and they will be led, health permitting, by 75-year-old Adair himself.

The man who was the hero of Piper Alpha, the Libyan oil fires, and the spectacular Sahara fire known as "the devil's cigarette lighter" is sitting by his favourite fire-engine-red telephone awaiting a call from Washington. "Mr Adair likes to be where the action is," says Henry Raymond, vice-president of the Red Adair Corporation. "He may well go himself."

The appointment by the State Department comes after several months of on-off negotiations. "We have been in discussions for a long time," says Raymond. "They got in touch with us and we got in touch with them. It was mutual. Since then, the team has made one trip to Washington and we've had numerous telephone conversations." The final call came after reports on Tuesday that the Iraqis had set several Kuwaiti oil installations on fire.

The teams are waiting at Adair's headquarters in Houston until Kuwait is declared a war-free zone. "There will be no movement till then," says Raymond. "But we will hop on a plane as soon as the need arises." With remarkable sang-froid, Adair's team remains calm at the prospect of dealing with fires that some estimate could rage for six months. "We don't anticipate unusual problems."

A long-time friend of George Bush, who is a former oil executive, Adair is famous for his claim that he has never come across a fire he could not put out in six weeks. He is no stranger to the Gulf. He worked in Kuwait in 1980, was warned by the CIA that he was on an Iranian hitlist, and on another occasion fled the Gulf in a fast launch pursued by gunboats.



Full coverage

With television presenters working 16-hour shifts during the Gulf war, BBC colleagues expected anchorman Martyn Lewis to catch up on his sleep when he took a deserved break yesterday. But within hours of coming off the air, Lewis had set out on a 500-mile round-trip to Devon to honour a long-standing series of charity engagements.

Lewis, a tireless worker for the hospice movement, drove to Exeter from his London home to assist the fundraising efforts of the Macmillan Fund for Cancer Relief. He took part in a question-and-answer session about the hospice movement on local radio, and also found time to help the Marie Curie Cancer Care Fund before returning to London last night.



Back at the BBC today to present round-the-clock news bulletins, Lewis is disarmingly modest about his schedule. "I didn't get much sleep during the first few days of the war, but I never thought of pulling out of the charity engagements. I couldn't possibly let people down," he says. "The adrenalin keeps us going. In any case it's our correspondents in the Gulf who are doing the real hard work, not me."

● *The journalist George Gale, whose memorial service was held at St Bride's, Fleet Street yesterday, loved surprises and, true to form, kept one up his sleeve to the last. Despite his reputation in later years as a crusty old Thatcherite, colleagues were astonished at the choice of the final item in the service, the 1960s peacenik classic, "Where have all the flowers gone?". Friends revealed afterwards in El Vino, the traditional haunt of journalists where Gale would have wanted his mourners to retire, that the choice was in recognition of the total opposition to a Gulf war which he had sustained to the end.*

Common currency

President Gorbachev's withdrawal of the two highest denomination banknotes from Soviet currency has inspired a flurry of enquiries from tourists wondering if they are in possession of what are about to become collectors' items. Alas no, says Edgar Lewy, for 40 years a collector of historic banknotes (professionally known as a scripophilist). The only 100 and 50 rouble notes of any value will be completely fresh examples that have never been in circulation. "They need to be straight from the mint and unfolded," he says.

The grimy specimens some former British tourists to Moscow might have stowed away in a top drawer are virtually worthless, even though it is supposedly illegal to take roubles out of the Soviet Union. "There are so many in existence that they have no real value," he says.

Dealers Spink & Sons, however, offer a small consolation for anyone prepared to wait 150 years to see a return on the money. "Pre-Napoleonic Russian banknotes are extremely valuable," says a spokesman helpfully.

Black papers

After depositing his £20,000 cheque for the Whitbread Book of the Year yesterday, Nicholas Mosley revealed plans to assemble an archive of the public and private papers of his late father, Sir Oswald Mosley. The 67-year-old novelist wants a British university to house the fascist leader's papers, but fears he may have to turn to a foreign institution to pay for the project.

Mosley, the third Baron Ravensdale, has his father's personal papers in an attic trunk, while the public papers are held by the Mosley Secretariat. Nicholas Mosley says: "He was always open about his politics and his personal life, so in that respect there are no skeletons in the family closet. It will take a bit of organising but I would like to see all the papers under one roof."

Mosley does not believe his prize money — for his novel *Hopeful Monsters* — will be sufficent to fund the venture. In any case, he has other plans for the award. "A nice holiday and various family celebrations. It should last about six months."

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هكذا من الأصل

EUROPE ENGULFED

The disarray over the Gulf war among the 12 countries of the European Community is breeding resentments which, as Douglas Hurd has warned, could have serious consequences when the war is over. This disarray – reflected in yesterday's chaotic collapse of the European Parliament's attempt to draft a declaration on the Gulf – is perhaps understandable. It stems from the different histories and interests of Europe's states. It should also instil some overdue realism about European political union.

Political union is far over the horizon. An alliance in support of the US-led coalition in the Gulf is for today. Europeans (and some Americans) have long worried about resurgent isolationism in the United States. Americans have complained that Western Europe was incapable of speaking with one voice. Hence President Bush's public enthusiasm in 1989, so irritating to Mrs Thatcher, for the European Community's plans for greater economic and political union and his friendship towards Germany as putative deliverer of those plans.

The Gulf war has turned those tables. America's leadership in countering Iraqi aggression has wrong-footed the pessimists, while Americans fiercely resent the semi-detachment of many European governments from the conflict and the denunciations of the war in many European streets. What if decisions by a "united" EC in this crisis had been based on the lowest point of possible agreement, as represented by Belgium's miserable parochialism?

Washington urgently wants, and needs, collective support for a UN-mandated operation. If the Gulf war is prolonged at enormous cost to American lives and treasure, American resentment of Western Europe's own isolationism could make the pessimists' predictions come true. Past debates about "burden sharing" in Europe's defence could seem tame as Congress turns its vengeance on its tardy allies in continental Europe.

The Gulf experiment in global security could be at the expense of European collective security, at least unless Germany and other laggards catch up with Britain in supporting the US-led operation. Germany has been glad to shelter behind its constitutional difficulty in sending troops overseas, as has Japan. But Japan has agreed to pay handsome sums as token of its support. Germany simply must pay a fair share of military costs in the Gulf, however unpopular that will be with the electorate and however opposed Chancellor Kohl's government may be to higher taxes.

American disgust with the German performance may in part be attributable to shock. Prior to Margaret Thatcher, the view in Washington was that Germany's absolute reliability as an ally outweighed that of an enfeebled Britain or a capricious France. Arithmetic is giving the lie to that. German contributions so far total two days' worth of America's outlay in the Gulf, some of it paid in obsolete East German surplus military hardware. Sending $165 million to Israel, as Herr Kohl promised yesterday, will not deflect American ire, nor calm the irritation of the British government, which is facing costs of more than £3.6 million a day.

Burden-sharing in the Gulf does not mean that each country's opinion of and contribution to the war must be identical. It does mean narrowing the disparities between, on the one hand, the military commitment of Britain, France (whatever its cavils) and Italy (whatever its reluctance), plus the good-faith contributions of The Netherlands and Denmark, and on the other hand the detachment or hostility to the conflict of countries such as Germany, Spain and Belgium. Europe's interest lies both in beating President Saddam Hussein and in supporting the US in its hour of need. For its "supranationalism" to be so inert in offering that support not only makes talk of political union meaningless – it also threatens Europe's long-term security. The Gulf war is not just somebody else's business.



ROUBLE ROULETTE

President Gorbachev yesterday achieved the extraordinary feat of briefly uniting the Soviet Union. From Siberia to the Baltics, citizens dropped everything to queue outside banks to withdraw their savings. They were trying to beat Mr Gorbachev's decree, due to take effect at the end of this week, limiting the amount of cash they can withdraw. The decree also withdraws all 50 and 100 rouble banknotes from circulation. Those who possess such notes can change them to smaller notes only if they prove, before the decree takes effect, that they hold them "legitimately".

Here at last is an original economic initiative from Mr Gorbachev. Economists of the far right have long supported a policy based on strict control of the money supply. Economists of the far left have equally demanded expropriation from the rich. Nobody has so far tried to combine both in a single measure. President Gorbachev has reinforced his reputation as an all-time master of ideological flexibility.

The prime minister, Valentin Pavlov, yesterday explained Mr Gorbachev's logic. He wants to control runaway inflation, caused by too much money chasing too few goods, and he wants to identify and penalise those who have profited from the proliferating black market.

The futility of the exercise was demonstrated by the immediate creation of a black market in big notes, which speculators were buying up at half their face value. The profit motive is notoriously resistant to decree. Black marketeers who have not been deterred by jail or even death under Mr Gorbachev and his predecessors are unlikely to be impressed by this latest wheeze. The serious spivs have, in any case, long held their wealth in hard currency, the dollar.

The victims of this measure lie elsewhere. They will not be the really rich, who never go near a rouble. They will not be the really poor, who do not see a 50 rouble note from one year to another. They will be among those Soviet citizens in between, the nascent middle class. They have genuinely sought to save. Under the Soviet system they have not been able to buy shares or other financial assets. So they have put their money in the banks or under the mattress. Some will beat the deadline. Others will find, as many found yesterday, that the supply of small denomination notes has run out. Others live too far from the bank to beat Mr Gorbachev's deadline. This is a cruel and arbitrary punishment of the kulak class worthy of Stalin.

Quite apart from the injustice, the consequence will be that these small savers will be less inclined to save. Because less is saved, less will be invested. Because less is invested, less will be produced. Because less is saved and less produced, even more money will chase even fewer goods. Inflation will turn out higher, not lower.

The populist in Mr Gorbachev may hope that the protests of the innocent will go unheard because most people will believe (contrary to the evidence) that he really is hitting the black marketeers. But this is really not the kind of passion that MrGorbachev should be seeking to stir up. His Russia needs the black marketeers. They are black marketeers only because that is the only way to get rich. Without their activities, the rigid Soviet economy would have seized up long ago. Most people would prefer to be legitimate entrepreneurs. When the Soviet Union finally rids itself of the command economy, it will need them more than ever.

There are no short cuts to capitalism. The early stages of the transition to a successful economy require high savings, encouraged by high interest rates, and active entrepreneurs, encouraged by the prospect of wealth and social esteem. That is difficult for a man educated on the texts of Marx and Lenin to accept. Unless he does, however, Mr Gorbachev will continue to sow the kind of chaos into which this week's decrees have plunged his country.

LYING ON THE ROAD

The average driver has got it into his head (the average driver is male) that he is above average. He is more skilful, more careful, more law-abiding than the chap ahead who, the blithering idiot, also thinks he is an above-average driver. This is part of the accidents-don't-happen-to-me syndrome the police encounter daily.

The latest survey of what drivers think, or say they think, was published yesterday by Lex, the car retailing chain. The findings throw a curious light on driver psychology. Only five million motorists, 23 per cent of the total, say they were "prepared to break the speed limit in towns". The answers were more credible for motorway speed limits, with 45 per cent thinking it acceptable to top the limit. But 77 per cent of drivers appear to insist that in a built-up area, 29½mph is as fast as they ever go. A glimpse in the mirror would be in order here, for truth is hot on the tail of the average motorist, its blue light flashing. On which stretch of clear urban road in Britain does three-quarters of the traffic travel at or below 30mph?

The survey asked what poor behaviour by other drivers caused them most stress. Four out of ten said drivers who drove too slowly. This sounds more like the real world, the authentic voice of the modern motorist. But the same proportion – not necessarily the same drivers – claim they are "angry and stressed" when they see other people's children in other people's cars, not wearing seat belts. Those busy denouncing the domestic arrangements of the car in front may commit the even more unforgivable sin of omitting to signal, which exasperates 56 per cent. Picking holes in other people's driving seems a national preoccupation, even a cause of accidents in its own right.

It is typical of the self-righteousness of the average British driver to worry more about the motes in the eye of the other driver than the beams in his own. What matters most is that everybody else should obey rules. This may not be a streak in the national character admired by foreigners but at least it betrays a preference to be law-abiding in principle: the "I wouldn't be going so fast if I wasn't in such a hurry" approach.

The Lex survey discovers a surprising willingness by a large majority to have their urban driving disciplined more emphatically. With 300,000 road casualties a year in residential areas, the need is clear enough. Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, welcomed this submission to further restraint, but he should be careful not to be taken in by the motorists' habitual self-deception. A *homo* behind a steering wheel is not strictly *sapiens*.

None the less, nine out of ten wanted more control in residential areas. The hump in the road, the "sleeping policeman", is the most favoured method. Some would also welcome more width restrictions, and some a speed limit even lower than 30mph. There is much here with which St Augustine would sympathise. "Make me go slower, Lord, but not today – and do not leave it to me."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Leningrad letter of Baltic protest

From Professor J. P. Connerade

Sir, Yesterday I received the text of a letter signed by 40 prominent Soviet scientists, many of them academicians and prize-winners, including Professors B. E. Golant, E. P. Mazets, M. P. Petrov and B. B. Tsarenkov. They tell me that their letter was submitted on January 15 to two Leningrad newspapers, both of which agreed to immediate publication. This agreement was then withdrawn, on the ground that the papers could not afford the space for "all these protests".

I am writing to you, Sir, because two of the signatories – Miron Y. Amusia, professor of atomic physics at the Ioffe Institute, and Professor N. A. Cherepkov of the Leningrad Institute of Avionics Design – have asked me to inform their overseas colleagues of their views. The letter is headed "Appeal by the Leningrad scientists in connection with a military operation in Lithuania on the night of January 13, 1991", and the text (in their own translation) is as follows:

"Information has been broadcast which one would not like to believe: that the TV station of Vilnius has been occupied by armed forces. There are dead and wounded. The minister of home affairs of the USSR has puzzled us rather than elucidated the situation. Some National Salvation Committee (it is unknown by whom created and whom it includes), offended by the contents of a TV programme, simply invited the armed forces 'to free the TV station', and that the latter then arrived, imposing a curfew by the way.

"The promise given by the minister of home affairs to gauge the situation with due attention has not set us at rest. Strictly speaking, there is nothing to gauge. It is obvious that moving heavy tanks is not a worthy argument in the political debates. And if they act under the command of someone no one knows, there is direct evidence of threat to the whole country, to its stability, tranquillity, prestige, and integrity.

"We, scientists of Leningrad, cannot keep silence, cannot remain indifferent to such a way of holding political discussions, such a use of the army. It is clear that the military operation in Lithuania can have no effect other than producing national hatred and hostility to the army – just the usual kind of world-wide disgrace to the country.

"We do not know who gave the immediate command 'to be on the offensive'. However, the responsibility of the governing body, the highest in the country, for what is going on, is beyond all question. While it is not too late, its official and moral obligation is to bring this march of events to a stop, which is regarded as criminal both in our country and in the rest of civilized world."

Yours faithfully,
J. P. CONNERADE,
Imperial College of Science and Technology,
Department of Physics,
The Blackett Laboratory,
Prince Consort Road, SW7.
January 22.

Planning appeals

From Mr T. R. Berman

Sir, It is amusing to read the lawyers (Mr D. Keene, QC, and others, January 12) protesting too much in favour of developers continuing to be protected for paying the costs of oral hearings at planning appeals.

Developers, whose planning applications are generally connected with personal gain, are not a sector of society in urgent need of a legal safety net. The evidence of recent years, notably the horrendous increase in local authorities' budgets for planning control and appeals, shows that the current appeals procedure is absurdly weighted in favour of developers and to the disadvantage of the community and tax payers. It is not uncommon for developers, having been properly refused planning permission at appeal, to re-submit an application with negligible alterations and return to appeal three or four times at little cost to themselves.

The proposed clause 24 of the Planning and Compensation Bill is one small step in the direction of achieving a fairer balance in the administration of planning law. One trusts that the legislators will not be diverted by the conservatism of the legal profession.

Yours faithfully,
TOM BERMAN,
Watersmoon, Henley Road,
Wargrave, Berkshire.

Radio 3 discord

From Mr Paul Spicer

Sir, Janet Daley's article about Radio 3 (January 11) demonstrates a woeful misrepresentation of what the network has to offer and the extent to which it has changed under John Drummond's controllership.

One of the major changes witnessed over the last three years or so has been the "targeting" of repertoire. This has identified particular times of the day when it is important that more mainstream music is broadcast, thereby avoiding the "smug cliquishness" (Janet Daley's term) which certainly did exist before these more enlightened times.

The strength of Radio 3 has always been its diversity. It is crucially important that new music should have a fair airing on a serious music network, and Ms Daley's patronising remarks about "composers so new that they are non-entities in world musical terms" cannot be allowed to pass without severe censure.

Would she care to have passed similar comment on a youthful Mozart, Mendelssohn or Britten? Radio 3 has a duty to give new composers in which it believes a fair chance to be heard, and for the public then to make up their minds. There is a rigorous screening process in operation to weed out the less talented.

The fact that Radio 3 has this strength of diversity, that it is not afraid to face all the artistic issues of the day and to change its face so radically in order to help bring a new public to share its treasures, is precisely the reason why it is not afraid to face the advent of "competition".

Yours faithfully,
PAUL SPICER,
1 The Close, Lichfield,
Staffordshire.

Keeping a grip on Gulf war aims

From Mr Jim Sillars, MP for Govan (Scottish National Party)

Sir, You report the Leader of the Opposition (January 22) as saying in Monday's debate that the Gulf war aims must include the substantial disarming of Iraq by reducing its conventional forces and removing all chemical, biological and nuclear weaponry. These are much wider than current war aims.

Other voices propose not only ejecting Iraq from Kuwait and restoring the legitimate government, but also evicting the Iraqi regime from Baghdad and imposing limits on Iraq's internal sovereignty.

Before these views gather pace and support, Mr Kinnock and others must be publicly contested, and the government must be pinned down to ensure that they do not resort to any wide and dangerous interpretation of the UN resolutions.

The UN authorised Kuwait to seek the military aid of other states to evict Iraq, and therefore the present allied action aimed at forcing Iraq out is legitimate. That is something I support.

It would, however, be a corruption of Resolution 678 to claim that it gives legal authority for insisting upon the substantial disarmament of Iraq alone, or the destruction of its military capacity alone. That policy of Mr Kinnock's could only be achieved by the defeat of Iraq within Iraq, the imposition of a government submissive to the allies, and allied power exercised within Iraq to enforce allied will.

It should be part of allied political strategy to drive a wedge between Saddam Hussein and opposition, and potential opposition, forces within Iraq. New and extended war aims which would require an invasion and total defeat of Iraq will do the opposite.

Many in the Arab world see the West as hypocritical, and Saddam Hussein has been able to exploit much truth in that accusation. If, having wrapped ourselves in the UN mandate, we now proceed beyond it and seek an overall and humiliating total defeat of Iraq, then we shall sow such seeds of contempt and rage in the Arab mind that a bitter harvest of instability and violence will confront us for decades.

Whatever the provocation from Saddam Hussein, we must keep a grip on our senses and be guided by an understanding of the volatile region in which our politicians, as well as our troops, now find themselves dug in. It may be safe for soldiers to dig in deeper, but it will be fatal for the politicians.

Yours etc.,
JIM SILLARS
(SNP foreign affairs spokesman),
House of Commons.
January 22.

Lessons to learn from times past

From Vice-Admiral Sir Louis Le Bailly

Sir, There already exists within the United Nations a Military Staff Committee whose advice the Secretary-General could seek, to avert any future armed conflict. Like my attaché colleagues of all three Services of the nations comprising the Security Council, it was my duty in the late 1960s occasionally to preside over this committee.

The average length of meetings was about five minutes. Quite by chance it fell to me to preside at a meeting of historic length (20 minutes). The subject was "appointment of a new secretary" as the then (original) secretary was retiring. There were two candidates. I was under strict instructions from Lord Caradon, our Ambassador to the UN, not to provide a casting vote but to forward the problem to U Thant.

Whimsical as the activities of this body may seem does it not, in the light of the rebirth of the original strong UN concept, provide a forum for some sort of Joint Chiefs of Staff organisation to which the Secretary-General could turn? This might obviate the need for a super-power to shoulder the onus (and sadly the incipient unpopularity) of providing armed forces under its own flag to compel acceptance in the future of any UN resolutions requiring armed intervention.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS Le BAILLY,
Garlands House,
St Tudy, Cornwall.
January 18.

From Mr W. T. Potter

Sir, Yesterday I saw on television what was described as an extremely hazardous and courageous exercise in which men were lowered from a helicopter into the sea to place a detonation charge on a floating mine in the Gulf.

During the last war, on HMS Gentian, a Flower Class corvette escort vessel with Atlantic convoys, we occasionally sighted floating mines and these were quickly disposed of by rifle and machine gun fire (my Lewis gun accounted for two) which either contacted the horns and exploded the mine or punctured the casing causing the mine to sink.

Why is it now thought necessary to risk life in such spectacular exercises in the disposal of floating mines?

Yours faithfully,
W. T. POTTER,
6 Higher Down,
Kenton, Exeter, Devon.
January 20.

From Major Leslie A. Hill

Sir, We prisoners in Germany's Oflag 79 towards the end of the second world war wondered why we had been badly bombed, with the loss of several of our fellow PoWs. When we were released by the advancing Americans in the spring of 1945 we found out. Our camp was close by a Luftwaffe aerodrome and about 400 yards from an underground aero-engine factory.

Yours sincerely,
L. A. HILL,
La Prairie, St Mary,
Jersey, CI.
January 22.

From Mr Charles Moubray

Sir, With the news that the 1st Battalion of the Coldstream Guards have been deployed to the Gulf to take responsibility for prisoners of war, can I reassure you as to how well practised the regiment is in carrying out these particular tasks in the desert? After the capture of Sidi Barani in December 1941, the 3rd Battalion, then commanded by my grandfather, signalled Churchill that it was impossible to count the prisoners because of their numbers but that "there were about five acres of officers and two hundred acres of other ranks".

May we only pray that history repeats itself at the earliest opportunity.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES MOUBRAY,
Ridlington House,
Oakham, Leicestershire.
January 18.

Cost of care

From the Director of the Carers' National Association

Sir, When Hunter Davies sets out how much it costs to arrange care for his mother-in-law – (Health, January 17), it throws into sharp and horrifying focus just what we expect of carers. Caring for Marion Davies for five years cost £42,000; this kind of bill is met by many of Britain's six million carers. In addition the "value" of the work done free by carers is in excess of £24 billion every year.

Of the six million, 133,000 only receive the invalid care allowance and when they do, it amounts to the princely sum of £28.20 per week. Most carers do what they do for reasons of love, or duty or a complex mixture of both, but it is surely time to stop exploiting families in this way.

Yours faithfully,
JILL PITKEATHLEY, Director,
Carers' National Association,
29 Chilworth Mews, W2.

Early 'cowboys'

From Dr B. A. Richards

Sir, David Hare has been and gone and done it again! In my article "Perpetrating a glitch in time" (*The Times*, May 31, 1990) I castigated him for using the term "cowboys", meaning fly-by-night crooks, in *Plenty*: the scene was at the time of Suez, but this usage did not come in until the 1960s.

Now in his new play *Heading Home* (BBC2, January 13) he has the same inauthentic word slap bang in the era of the late 1940s and early 1950s, when proto-Rachmanism was getting underway.

One would not mind so much if the reviewers had not praised the "period feel" and the sensitively caught speech. Let us hope he will not go on repeating this elementary mistake in any future plays set in that period.

Yours sincerely,
BERNARD RICHARDS,
Brasenose College, Oxford.

From Mr Harvey Ackerman

Sir, I must agree wholeheartedly with Janet Daley. There is without question a demand for a 24-hour national popular-classic music station. The wealth of music in this sphere from the 18th-20th centuries would be enough to accommodate five stations, let alone one.

The popular light-music mix of London's excellent Melody Radio, with its less speech, more music policy, is an example of the type of station that could be applied to classical music on a national scale.

Yours faithfully,
HARVEY ACKERMAN,
14 Rossanne House,
Etchingham Park Road,
Finchley, N3.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number – (071) 782 5046.

Flaws in reform of farm policy

From the President of the National Farmers' Union

Sir, In today's leading article "On the wrong side", you talk in terms of the victory of Mr MacSharry's ideas of reform and talk threateningly of Mr Gummer not readily being forgiven if he lets this opportunity for reform pass.

Of the absolute and immediate need for reform, no one is in doubt. Least of all farmers who in the first year of this decade saw their profits plummet to the lowest levels since the war, whilst surpluses and budgetary expenditure are again sharply on the increase. Indeed there is something radically wrong.

But will Mr MacSharry's proposals put right the inherent flaws? In our view patently the answer is "no". Whilst talking of wanting to achieve a more efficient, dynamic agriculture, he is simultaneously proposing to make it almost impossible for larger, well structured farms to survive, and indefinitely to support the smallest producers – regardless of any economic merit – just because they are very small.

What sort of image would be given by an industry that would consist of around 10 per cent of the total holdings being large prairie-style farming operations without the resources properly to look after the countryside and environment, and the other 90 per cent being small operations which regardless of their economic efficiency were kept in situ by a massive exercise in social engineering at the expense of the taxpayer? Why restrict such policies to agriculture?

You acknowledge there may be some injustice in the proposals because of their weighting against the UK. But you miserably underestimate the impact. Why should we have to absorb a milk quota cut that is relatively four times as great as that of France or Germany solely because we have larger, more efficiently structured farms? In any other context you would be the first to describe that as pure economic madness.

Farmers accept that as an industry we must increasingly become market orientated. Everybody is agreed that reform of the common agricultural policy should embrace proper consideration for the environment and countryside. It is a simple political reality that we are not suddenly going to do away with every form of agricultural support.

So, where the stark choice is between indiscriminate price cutting coupled with arbitrary social payments or some form of effective production control coupled with proper care of the countryside and the environment, I am quite clear that we must all unite to ensure that we end up with the latter.

Yours sincerely,
SIMON GOURLAY, President,
National Farmers' Union,
Agriculture House,
Knightsbridge, SW1.
January 23.

Oxfam on birth control

From Dr Malcolm Potts

Sir, My observation, quoted by Mrs Valerie Riches (January 15), that "abortion is often the starting place in the control of fertility" is an observational fact. But it need not be that way if we encourage easy access to abortion.

For example, in the Soviet Union, where contraceptive services are pitifully inadequate, there are 112 registered abortions for every 1,000 women aged 15-44. In The Netherlands, where contraception is enthusiastically promoted, the rate is 5.3. This more than 20-fold difference is incontrovertible evidence that good family planning prevents abortions.

One reason why some of us are disappointed in Oxfam's timid attitudes to family planning is that we are saddened by the high abortion rates we see and angry that one woman a minute dies from childirth or abortion and that 99 per cent of those deaths are in poor countries, usually with inadequate access to contraceptive choices.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM POTTS,
Family Health International,
85 Campden Hill Towers,
Notting Hill Gate, W11.

Taking a bow

From Mr O. L. C. Toller

Sir, Mr S. A. Walsh's suggestion (January 16) that leading male singers be presented with a gift-wrapped bottle of port is impracticable: the dangers of dropping it when taking curtain calls holding the hands of other singers are too great to be worth the risk, whereas if a bouquet of flowers is dropped all you lose is dignity.

Yours faithfully,
OWEN TOLLER,
Merchant Taylors School,
Sandy Lodge,
Northwood, Middlesex.
January 16.

From Dr Gerald Hendrie

Sir, Having been a (non-vocal) soloist at operas and concerts for many years in what until recently was East Germany I can testify to the fact that both sexes receive lavish gifts of flowers. Friends help one carry the bounty back to the hotel. I would not have preferred a bottle of port.

Yours sincerely,
GERALD HENDRIE,
The Garth, 17 The Avenue,
Dallington, Northampton.
January 16.

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 23: The Queen was represented by Dr John Cormack (Apothecary to the Household at the Palace of Holyroodhouse) at the Funeral of Mr George Brewster (formerly Surgeon-Apothecary to the Household at the Palace of Holyroodhouse) which was held in St Cuthbert's Parish Church, Edinburgh, this morning.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 23: The Princess Royal today presented the 1990 Best British Rail Station Awards in the Grand Hall, New Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, WC2.

Afterwards Her Royal Highness, Patron, HFT Development Trust, attended a private lunch at Hambros Bank, 41 Tower Hill, London, EC3.

This afternoon The Princess, President of the Save the Children Fund, held an Industry and Commerce Group Meeting at Buckingham Palace.

Her Royal Highness, Past Master, The Worshipful Company of Farriers, held a Reception at Buckingham Palace for the Desert Orchid Farriers' Appeal.

This evening The Princess Royal, President, British Knitting & Clothing Export Council, presented the British Apparel Export Awards at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, W1.

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 23: The Princess of Wales, Patron, Turning Point, attended the film premiere of "Postcards from the Edge" at the Odeon, Leicester Square, WC2.

Mrs Max Pike and Squadron Leader David Barton RAF were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 23: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Friends of Gibraltar Heritage Society, this evening was present at the Annual Meeting and Reception at the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London, SE1.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE:
January 23: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, visited the Royal Free Hospital this afternoon, and opened the new wing of the Radiotherapy and Oncology Department.

Lady Aird was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal will open the CAT scanner and visit the eye laser unit at Southend General Hospital at 10.15; open the new boathouse at Southend for the RNLI at 11.35; as president, will visit BAFTA at 195 Piccadilly at 2.00; and, as Under Warden of the Loriners' Company, will attend a court meeting and dinner at Vintners' Hall at 4.55.

Princess Margaret will attend a concert at Commonwealth House at 6.40 in aid of the Victoria League and the Commonwealth Trust.

The Duchess of Kent will present the Duff Cooper Memorial prize at University College at 6.30.

Birthdays today

Miss Nora Beloff, author, 72; Mr Neil Diamond, singer and actor, 46; Mr Bamber Gascoigne, author and broadcaster, 56; Mr Peter Laister, company director, 62; Admiral Sir Andrew Lewis, Lord Lieutenant of Essex, 73; Dr Desmond Morris, zoologist, writer and broadcaster, 63; Lord Justice Murray, 68; Dr Ian Oliver, chief constable, Grampian, 51; Lord Savile, 72; Dr Jane Somerville, consultant physician, 58; Earl Spencer, 67; the Most Rev J.A. Ward, Archbishop of Cardiff, 62; Air Commodore Sir Archie Winskill, 74.

The Ven D.I.T. Eastman

Thanksgiving Eucharist for the life of the Ven D.I.T. Eastman, MC, will be celebrated on February 4, 1991, at 5.15 pm, in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. No tickets are required. Parking facilities are not available in the Castle precincts.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Sir John Vanbrugh, dramatist and architect, baptised, London, 1664; William Congreve, dramatist, Bardsey, Yorks, 1670; Pierre de Beaumarchais, dramatist, Paris, 1732; Charles James Fox, statesman, London, 1749; Ernst Theodore Amadeus Hoffmann, writer and composer, Königsberg, Germany, 1776; Sir Edwin Chadwick, physician and social reformer, Longsight, Lancs, 1800.

DEATHS: James Ralph, writer, London, 1762; Lord Randolph Churchill, statesman, London, 1895; Ouida (pseudonym of Louise de la Ramée), novelist, Lucca, Italy, 1908; Edward MacDowell, composer, New York, 1908; Amadeo Modigliani, painter and sculptor, Paris, 1920; Sir Winston Churchill, prime minister 1940-45, 1951-55, London, 1965.

Lecture

Guild of World Traders in London
The annual Tacitus lecture was delivered on Tuesday, January 22, at International House, St Katharine by the Tower, by His Excellency Sheikh Salim Al Sabah, Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait, in the presence of the Master of the Guild of World Traders in London, Mr Richard Charvet, the Senior Warden, the Earl of Limerick and past masters Mr Peter Drew, Sir Peter Gadsden, Lord Bellwin and Mr Peter Bowring, to an invited audience of guild members and friends. Afterwards, His Excellency was entertained at a private dinner given by the Master and Wardens. The guests included:

The Kuwaiti Ambassador, Dr Ali Al-Shamlan (Minister for Education), Mr Walid Al-Khobaisi (Chargé d'affaires), Mr Ahmed Al-Duwaisan, Mr Bibi Shalla, Lord Denman, Sir David Rowe-Ham, Mr W Hopkin, Mr D Probert, Mr G Robinson, Mr L Smith, Mr R Sermon, Mr I Harvey, Mr P Widdicod, Mr P Berry, Mr N C F Barber, Dr B J Ridgewell, Dr K C Wright, Dr T O'Neill, Mr G C G Cogan (treasurer) and Mr J T Norman (clerk).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.H. Davis and Miss M.M. Bains
The engagement is announced between Julyan, son of the late Mr Timothy Davis and of Mrs Suzy Davis, of Bath, and Madeleine, daughter of the late Mr William T. Bains III and of Mrs Ellen Bains, of Albertville, Alabama.

Mr J.N.W. Denholm and Miss S.M. Sweeting
The engagement is announced between James Niall William, elder son of Mrs R.F. Denholm and the late Mr R.F. Denholm, of Thornhill, Stirling, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E.M. Sweeting, of Ashley Green, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R.F.R. Evans and Mrs Y.M. Bigland
The engagement is announced between Robin Francis Bickerton Evans, of Whitbourne, Hereford and Worcester, and Mrs Yvonne Mary Bigland, née Bowerman, of Horton Kirby and Brenchley, Kent.

Mr D.R.D.M. Hilleary and Miss S.E. Dunne
The engagement is announced between Duncan, son of Riuaraidh Hilleary, of Greshornish, Edinbain, Isle of Skye, and Mrs Sheena Hilleary, of Logie Farm, Glenferness, Nairn, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Dunne, of Chadshunt, Kineton, Warwickshire.

Captain T.W. House and Miss J.V. Spencer-Jones
The engagement is announced between Timothy House, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, eldest son of Mr and Mrs W.F. House, of Poole, Dorset, and Jane Victoria, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.F. Spencer-Jones, of Cookham Dean, Berkshire.

Mr C.E. Lees-Millais and Miss F.M.L. Tottenham
The engagement is announced between Colin, son of Mr and Mrs John Lees-Millais, of Rockley Manor, Marlborough, and Fanny, daughter of Mr Humphry Tottenham and the late Mrs Susan Tottenham, of Bramley, Hampshire.

Mr G.C.C. Mallinson and Miss S.G. Everard
The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Mr Miles Mallinson, of Barnes, London, and of Mrs Sally Mallinson, of Fulham, London, and Serena, daughter of Mr and Mrs Simon Everard, of Cold Newton, Leicestershire.

Mr S.J.F. Margaroli and Miss L.J. Grayson
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr and Mrs Benito Margaroli, of West Worthing, Sussex, and Lisa, elder daughter of Mr Peter Grayson, of Kowloon, Hong Kong, and Mrs Beverley Krzyzanowski, of Melbourne, Australia.

Mr P.J.C. Moores and Fräulein B. Bieniek
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Denis Moores, of Harleston, Norfolk, and Beate, younger daughter of Herr and Frau Bieniek, of Duisburg, Germany.

Mr G.T.J. Oliver and Mrs C.J. Westropp
The engagement is announced between Toby Oliver, of London, SW11, and Christine Westropp, of London, W4.

Mr R.J.K. Paterson and Miss L. del Marmol
The engagement is announced between Rowan, twin son of Mr and Mrs Mark Paterson, of Windlesham, Surrey, and Inés, elder daughter of Baron and Baronne Guy del Marmol, of Wezembeek-Oppem, Belgium.

Mr J.D. Reid and Ms S.A. Jessup
Mr and Mrs John Reid, of Southgate, London, N14, are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Dominic to Suzanne, daughter of Mrs Danuta Schultz and the late Mr Leon Schultz, of Toronto, Ontario.

Mr T.R.L. Waring and Mrs E.A. Maclay
The engagement is announced between Thomas R.L. Waring, of Haslemere, and Chiddingfold, and Elizabeth Ann Maclay, of Hambledon, Surrey.

Mr J.G.M. Wates and Miss L. Lindsey
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs M.E. Wates, of Langton Long, Dorset, and Laurie, daughter of Mr Harry Vaughn Lindsey, of Richlands, Virginia, and Mrs Jaynet C. Lindsey, of Amarillo, Texas.

Church news

Church in Wales

Diocese of Monmouth
The Rev John Thomas Lewis, Vicar of Brecon St David, Llanspyddid and Llanllltyd, diocese of Swansea and Brecon, to be Vicar of Bassaleg.
The Rev Simon Llewelyn Guest, Vicar in the Rectorial Benefice of Cwmbran, to be Vicar of the Grouped Parishes of Raglan with Llandenny and Bryngwyn.

OBITUARIES

DR JOHN AUDEN

Dr John Auden, geologist and brother of the poet W. H. Auden, died in London on January 21 aged 87. He was born on December 14, 1903.



ERIC Shipton's book *Blank on the Map* (1938) tells how four Englishmen — Bill Tilman, Michael Spender, John Auden and himself — together with a party of Indian guides and sherpas, explored and mapped the high Karakoram region of the Himalayas between Hunza, Pakistan and Sinkiam. The mountaineer and editor Michael Roberts was among the first to point out that three of the leading writers of the day had brothers who climbed mountains (the third was Raymond, brother of Graham Greene). When Auden and Isherwood's dramatic poem *The Ascent of F6* appeared in 1936, it was dedicated by Auden to his geologist brother.

John Bicknell Auden was born in York, but, as with his two brothers, his childhood was spent in Birmingham where his father, the distinguished hygienist, psychologist and archaeologist, Dr G. A. Auden, was professor of public health and medical officer at the university. John Auden read geology at Cambridge and then in 1926 joined the Indian geological survey, where he worked for 10 years on the Vidhyan formations of the Himalayas. A founder member of the Himalayan Club, he was able to spend most of his furloughs in the early 1930s exploring the higher ranges of Karakoram and Anghil and the glaciers of K2, most notably in the Shipton expedition of 1937.

In 1939 he learned to fly and made reconnaissance flights over unmapped areas of the Bijaigarh shales. In 1940 he married Sheila, granddaughter of W. C. Bonnerjee, first president and founder of the Indian National Congress. His many Indian friends included the poet Sudhin Dutt and the painters Jmini Roy and Atul Bose. In 1940 he was elected president of the Geological Institute of the Presidency College, Calcutta, and between 1945 and 1951 he investigated almost all the major dam sites, hydro electric projects, irrigation works and water supply schemes of India. His groundwater studies in the arid western Rajasthan, Kutch and Quetta were a landmark in Indian engineering geology.

In 1951, he was unanimously elected president of the geological section of the 38th Indian Science Congress. After a spell with the Burmah Oil company, he was invited in 1960 to join the Land and Water Resources Division of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation in Rome, where he worked until his retirement.

His fierce devotion to accuracy, his love of the precision of minutiae, were part of a larger respect for truth in all its forms. His gentle wit, often aimed at the imperfections of those bureaucracies within which he was constrained for most of his life to work, endeared him to colleagues as did his manifest warmth and generosity. Returning to London he served for two years as vice-president of the Geological Society of London, and as "foreign secretary" of the Geological Society of India.

He died at home, after an illness of a few weeks duration. He is survived by his wife, Sheila, and two daughters who were all constantly at his side during his decline.

PROFESSOR EDDIE SEYMOUR

Professor Edwin Frank Walter Seymour, emeritus professor of physics at the University of Warwick, has died at the age of 67. He was born on June 7, 1923.



EDDIE Seymour was a physicist and teacher of outstanding ability who had a remarkable career in university education. While attaining international distinction in his research in the field of nuclear magnetic resonance, he was, at the same time, an inspiring lecturer who stimulated successive generations of undergraduates to try to emulate his intellectual curiosity and devotion to physics.

In parallel with his academic work he rose to high office in university administration where his incisive thinking and sound judgement were greatly valued. A modest, kind and warmhearted man, he earned the respect, admiration and affection of all who had the privilege of working with him.

He was educated at King Alfred School, Wantage, before enlisting in the Royal Signals in 1941. As part of his military training, he attended Oxford University and this experience probably determined his eventual choice of an academic career. On receiving his commission he served as a signals officer in the Royal Artillery before being posted to the Far East where he commanded a unit responsible for communications with agents operating behind Japanese lines.

After leaving the army with the rank of major in 1946 he returned to Oxford to study for a degree in physics. He graduated with first class honours in 1950 and stayed on to pursue research. During this period he was introduced to the recently discovered phenomenon of nuclear magnetic resonance which was to become his life-long interest and he carried out pioneering experiments on solids using methods which have blossomed into one of the most important techniques for studying the physics of condensed matter. Perhaps his best work at Oxford, however, was the production of temperatures as low as 0.001 degrees Kelvin using adiabatic demagnetisation.

On receiving his DPhil in 1953, he took up a lectureship in the physics department of Leeds University where he set up a research group to study nuclear magnetic resonance in metals and alloys. Eventually these investigations were extended to molten metals thus beginning a very fruitful phase of his work. He was promoted to senior lecturer in 1963 and then in 1965 he was appointed to a readership at the newly-established University of Warwick.

The challenge of helping to create a new physics department was one which he accepted with relish and he rapidly established a reputation as an able administrator at both the departmental and university levels, taking on a range of increasingly important roles in the development of the university. His research on liquid metals and alloys continued to flourish and in recognition of his achievements he was appointed to a personal chair in physics in 1969.

During the 1970s his research interests turned to the study of structure in glasses and more importantly to the investigation of defusion and structure of metallic hydrides. It is this latter aspect of his work which has achieved the greatest recognition and which he continued up until his death. He frequently worked overseas in the United States, Australia and Japan, developing many productive collaborative projects which in turn brought a stream of foreign visitors to Warwick. Despite the intensity of this activity he found the time and energy to accept the position of pro vice-chancellor at Warwick and to continue teaching students with his usual enthusiasm.

He also served on the Science and Engineering Research Council and other national academic bodies. About the only thing which could tempt him away from this work was the prospect of a day at a Test match at nearby Edgbaston and after retirement in 1987 he was better able to indulge his life-long love of cricket. Apart from this, typically of him, there was little perceptible change in his scientific activity. Indeed he continued to travel widely in connection with his work and developed a new interest in muon spin rotation, assisting in some of the first experiments performed in this country.

In 1951 he married Dilys Roberts. She and their son and daughter survive him.

PRINCESS ILEANA

Princess Ileana of Romania, who was known as Mother Alexandra after she became a nun, died on January 21 in an Ohio hospital aged 82. She was born in Bucharest on January 5, 1909.

PRINCESS Ileana was driven from her homeland by communist revolution, became a nun and opened a monastery in a converted caravan in Pennsylvania. She was the eldest daughter of King Ferdinand and Queen Marie, a great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria and of Tsar Alexander II.

Ileana and her family left Bucharest in 1948 after the communist take-over. She was an aunt of King Michael, the last of the Romanian monarchs; he lives in Geneva and has recently been attempting to return to his native country. Moving first to Switzerland and then to Argentina, she settled in the United States in 1950, bringing with her some of her jewellery wrapped in a nightgown and a gold container filled with Romanian soil. The latter she always kept under her bed so that her children could claim they had been born "on Romanian soil".

The youngest of five children of Ferdinand and Marie, she was married to Archduke Anton of Austria when she was 23 in a wedding arranged by her eldest brother, King Carol II. She lived in Austria until 1940, then returned to her homeland where she was to remain for the next eight years. She was permanently exiled in 1948 after the communist revolution.

In 1954 she divorced the Archduke who had served in the German air force during the second world war. She had six children and was living in Newton, Massachusetts where she supported herself by lecturing on her life and on Romania. Her second marriage, to Dr Stefan Issarescu, also ended in divorce, in 1960.

In 1967, with her eldest daughter having been killed in a plane crash and her other children grown up, she moved to France and became a nun of the Orthodox Church in the Convent of the Protection of the Holy Virgin. Two years later she established the Monastery of the Holy Transfiguration in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania, for Orthodox Church women of all ethnic backgrounds. She was its abbess until 1980.

Mother Alexandra maintained contact with her homeland and for 30 years broadcast messages on the American radio station Radio Free Europe. Last September she went back to visit the graves of her parents. One of her final requests was that the remaining soil she brought to the United States be buried with her.

She is survived by three daughters and two sons.



JEAN MANTELET

Jean Mantelet, inventor of the "Mouli" vegetable press and founder of the Moulinex household appliances empire, died at his Paris home on January 19 aged 90. He was born on August 10, 1900.

JEAN Mantelet's death came just one month after he had finally withdrawn from Moulinex after settling a bitter war of succession between the company's director general, Roland Darneau, and its financial director, Michel Vannoorenberghe, in favour of the former.

M Darneau was elected chairman of the board, with Mantelet's help, on December 14. A few weeks earlier, Moulinex had successfully completed its controversial takeover bid for the German household goods group, Krups, bringing its consolidated annual sales to 7.7 billion francs (£780 million).

Mantelet is said to have invented his famous handheld vegetable mill, on which the Moulinex empire was based, after his wife, Fernande, complained one day in 1932 that she could not get all the lumps out of her mashed potato with the wooden pestle that she was using.

Rushing off to his Paris workshop where he produced agricultural pulverisers, Mantelet, the son of an industrialist and himself an industrial engineer by training, promptly created the "Mouli". It was an instant hit with the French housewives at the 1932 Paris fair and the next year Mantelet set up his first Moulinex production line at Bagnolet on the outskirts of Paris.

But it was not until the mid 1950s that Moulinex really took off when Mantelet came up with his second labour-saving brainwave — to put an electric motor into his vegetable mill. The company went on to launch a whole range of manual and electrical kitchen appliances to mix, chop, grind, mince, and slice. Hairdryers, vacuum cleaners, toasters, air-conditioners and microwave ovens were soon to be added to its production line.

Little by little the empire grew and became one of the world leaders in its field. In 1985, however, Moulinex ran into severe financial difficulties in the face of tough competition from the Far East and Mantelet felt obliged to dig deep into his own pockets to keep the company solvent. It has since recovered.

After a stroke in 1986 Mantelet withdrew from active management but remained a strong influence in the company until finally giving up the chairmanship to M Darneau at the end of last year. He has no direct descendants.

Memorial service

Mr George Gale

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr George Gale was held yesterday at St Bride's, Fleet Street. Canon John Oates officiated. Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, the *Sunday Telegraph*, read the lesson. Mr Ben Gale, son, read *Intimations of Immortality* by Wordsworth, and Sir Kingsley Amis *Essay on Liberty* by J.S. Mill. Mr Paul Johnson gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Gale (widow), Mrs Anne Gale (mother), Mr Mark Gale (son), Mr and Mrs Hugh Cass (brother and sister-in-law), Mrs Ben Gale (daughter-in-law), Mrs Pat Gale, Mr Laurence Gale, Miss Emma Gale, Miss A Moore.

Mr Vyvyan Harmsworth (representing the Chairman of Associated Newspapers) with Sir David English (editor-in-chief), Mr Brian Parts (director, corporate affairs), Mr Peter Wise (managing editor, *Daily Mail*) and Mr Victor Davis (representing the editor, *The Mail on Sunday*).

Lady Kilmarnock, Lady Lucinda Lambton, the Hon Erskine and Mrs Gutmann, the Hon Jeremy Deedes (executive editor, *The Daily Telegraph* also representing the editor) with Mr Charles Moore (deputy editor) and Mr Frank Johnson (the *Sunday Telegraph*); Sir Edward Pickering (executive vice-chairman, Times Newspapers) and Master of the Guild of St Bride) with Mr Daniel Johnson (representing the editor, *The Times*), Sir Kenneth Bradshaw, Sir John Junor.

Mr Bernard Shrimsley, associate editor, *Daily Express*, Mr Geoffrey Parkhouse (*Glasgow Herald*), Mr Ian Aitken (representing the editor, *The Guardian*), Mr John Jackson, Mr Robin Parkin and Mr Edward Vale (*Daily Mirror*), Mr Brian Hitchen (editor, *Daily Star*), Mr Peter Donnelly (*The European*), Mr Dominic Lawson (editor, *The Spectator*) with Mr Simon Courtauld (deputy editor); Mr Kenneth Morgan (director, Press Complaints Commission), Mr J C Esserson (London Old Novocastrians Association) and Mrs Esserson, Mr Christopher Mitchell (El Vino).

Mrs Paul Johnson, Mr Arthur Brittenden, Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft, Mr Charles Wintour, Mr Louis Kirsy, Mr Keith Waterhouse, Mr and Mrs Anthony Howard, Mr Fergy Mount, Mr Ian Wooldridge, Mr Colin Welch, Mr Peter Tory, Mr Peter McKay, Mr and Mrs Michael Molloy, Mrs Sandy Gall, Mr Eric Jacobs, Mr James Hughes-Onslow, Mr Stephen Malone, Mr Hugo Dillon Malone, Miss Nicola Fine, Miss Sally Aunz, Mr Brian Park, Mr James Moncan, Mr John Edwards, Mr Robert Edwards, Mrs Monica Foot, Mr Tom Utley.

Mr Alan Brien, Mr Ian Christie, Mr Derek Howe, Mr Michael Plant, Mr Morris Bench, Mr Geoffrey Goodman, Mr David Boyd, Mr Derek Hill, Mr Christopher Dobson, Miss Julia Langdon, Mr Alan Watkins, Mrs Michael Levine, Mr Percival Gibbon, Mr Bill Hannaford, Mr Terence Lancaster, Mr Frank Spooner, Mr Gordon Greig, Mr Robert Haswell, Mr Frank Goldsworthy, Mrs Shirley Letwin, Mr Tom Pocock, Miss Sue Douglas, Mr George Lochhead and Mr Barrie Devney.

Anglicans and Catholics seek to define common ground

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

AS THE Church of England heads towards a decision on women priests, a move which could end hopes for ultimate unity with the Roman Catholic church, a committee of senior churchmen today publishes a report setting out common ground between the two traditions.

In *Church as Communion*, the group of Anglicans and Catholics tries to find a mutual understanding in spite of "grave obstacles from the past and of recent origin". The members say that the two communions now enjoy a better understanding of their shared inheritance, which allows them "to recognise in each other's church a true affinity".

Anglicans and Catholics often pray together, the report says, and draw from a common treasury of spiritual writing. There has been a convergence in patterns of liturgy, they agree on the use of the vernacular in worship and some congregations share buildings.

There is closer co-operation in universities, parishes and religious communities. Catholic and Anglican bishops meet to make common statements on moral and social issues. "Grave obstacles from the past and of recent origin must not lead us into thinking that there is no further room for growth towards fuller communion," the report says.

However, the Pope has warned the Archbishop of Canterbury that ordaining women would be a break with tradition that the Catholic church would have no competence to authorise. The report notes that in a letter to Dr Robert Runcie, John Paul II said such a decision would block the path to the mutual recognition of ministries.

Some church members believe that although Anglicans and Catholics use the same creed, confessing belief in "one holy, catholic and apostolic church", true unity has rarely been further away. Behind many past and present divisions has lurked the mutual suspicion that Anglicans and Catholics have different understandings of the church.

The Rt Rev Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, said: "This document should be seen as part of the long process of growing together. One should not expect too much too soon." The Rt Rev Mark Santer, Bishop of Birmingham, said: "It is an explanation of a common vision rather than an attempt to solve a particular problem."

The report examines issues raised by the Reformation and the long separation of the churches.

The Bishop of Birmingham said: "Anglicans have seen themselves as part of the one holy, catholic church, although not in full eucharistic communion with the other parts. We have come to see how that is not adequate.

"The gravest obstacle is the fact of separation for 400 years. Once two institutions have started operating successfully it is extraordinarily difficult for them to come together again. There is more to reconciliation than doctrine alone."

Church as Communion (Church House Publishing/Catholic Truth Society, Great Smith St, SW1P 3NZ or 38-40 Eccleston Sq, SW1V 1PD, £1.70 incl pp)

Institute of Mathematics

The following have been elected fellows of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications:

Mr B J Ball, Mrs J M Bowes, Dr A Bowyer, Ms K Cross, Mr M J Fretwell, Dr T J Hiese, Mr W R Hodgkins, Dr A J Jakeman, Dr D Knibb, Dr R S Langley, Ms J D Phillips, Dr M K Pidcock, Professor M Pidcock, Mr M H Robson, Mr M R Shaw, Mr P J Swan and Dr R J Willshire.

Urban theologian

The Rev Kenneth Leech, former director of the Runnymede Trust, has been appointed to a new post as an urban theologian at St Botolph's Church, Aldgate, in the City.

His work will range from drug abuse, homelessness and racial justice to wider issues of the gospel and Christian discipleship.

Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St George

HE don Achille di Lorenzo, Grand Chancellor of the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St George, has presented Sir Sigmund Sternberg and Mr Michael Sternberg with the Medaglia d'Argento di Benemerenza.

Dinners

Britain-Australia Society
Sir Peter Gadsden, Chairman of the Britain-Australia Society, presided at the annual dinner held last night at The Brewery, Chiswell Street, to mark Australia Day (January 26). Mr R.J. Greet, Acting High Commissioner for Australia, Lieutenant-General Sir John Richards, Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, and Mr Stephen Hood. Among others present were:

The Earl of Caithness, The Earl and Countess of Limerick, Viscount and Viscountess Caldecote, Viscount De L'Isle, VC, Viscount and Viscountess Slim, Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, QC, and Lady Rawlinson, Lord Shackleton, Lady Gadsden, Lady Richards, Sir Jack and Lady Rampton, Mrs Hood, Dr and Mrs S B Richardson and the Agents-General for Australia and their ladies.

Union Society of the City of Westminster
Mr Telfer Saywell, Chairman of the Union Society of the City of Westminster, presided at a dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Professor Nicholas Wright, Mr Douglas Imrie-Brown, president, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, QC, and Mr Don Hunsley also spoke.

London House for Overseas Graduates
Mrs Jean Edwards, a Governor of the London House Trust, and Mr David Emms, Director of London House for Overseas Graduates, received the guests at the annual combined faculties dinner held last night at Mecklenburgh Square for graduates at London House and William Goodenough House. Among those present were:

Members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Right Rev B J Masters, Lord and Lady Mackeson of Beech, Sir Terence and Lady English, Sir John and Lady Fretwell, the Very Rev E W and Mrs Heaton, Dr and Mrs I Lonton, Mr and Mrs S W F Martin and Professor Michael Zander.

Foundation for Science and Technology
Lord Butterworth, Chairman of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Royal Society. Sir Alastair Pilkington, Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, Dr Brian Newbould, Mr Tim Rix and Mr Clive Bradley also spoke.

Legal appointments

Miss Dawn Freedman and Mr **Colin Woodford** to be Circuit Judges, assigned to the South Eastern Circuit.

University news

Stirling
Dr Donald Low has been promoted to a personal chair in English Studies.

Institution of Electrical Engineers

The Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) is pleased to announce that the following have been admitted to the class of Fellow and are permitted to use the designation FIEE:

Dr T R Addis, Reading; Mr J K Allen, Huddersfield; Dr J C Batts, Eastleigh; Mr C T Bartlett, Maidstone; Dr R N Bates, Huntingdon; Mr A G Beasley, Letchworth; Mr P L Bonfield, CBE, Shrewsbury; Mr S A Brear, Keighley; Mr R G Bridgeman, Troweridge.

Dr G Carter, Salford; Mr B S Cartman, Weybridge; Dr M A G Clark, Portsmouth; Mr J Clarke, Cheadle; Mr M J Clifton, Leamington Spa; Mr D A Cowley, Camberley; Mr L D Curran, Stockbridge; Mr M Dean, Cardiff; Mr B K Deb, India; Dr W Drury, Shrewsbury; Mr P A Escritt, St Albans; Mr D C Freeth, Macclesfield; Dr J N Grierson, Ipswich; Dr P S Hall, Swindon; Mr A V Hart, Kenya; Mr P Hetherington, Netherlands; Mr J D Hill, Rugby; Mr W E Hillier, Evesham; Mr S C Horton, Maidenhead; Mr G M Hutchinson, Andover; Mr W J Huston, Bury; Mr R J Kemp, Gravesend; Mr J W Kennedy, Texas; Mr B Lake, Ashford; Mr D W Lakin, Solihull; Dr L F Lind, Colchester; Mr W Lindop, Reading; Mr J F A Lodge, Tewkesbury; Dr J P A Lowry, Swindon; Mr P J Marchant, Hitchin; Mr N McArthur, Warrington; Mr D Mckendrick, Wetherby; Mr F Mercer, Warrington; Mr P Mullan, Taunton; Mr J Murray, Ware; Dr R J Murray, Horley; Dr M H Nagrial, Australia; Dr J J Narraway, Canada; Mr G A Ndubuka, Nigeria; Dr J R Norbury, Didcot; Mr B L Nuttall, Brentwood; Dr R J Orme, Bristol; Mr A H Osman, Malaysia; Mr K E Owen, Towcester; Mr P A A Owen, Australia; Mr C H Oxley, Towcester.

Dr J J Purcell, Fordingbridge; Mr R Robinson, Nottingham; Mr M D Rogers, Carrickfergus; Mr K Saeed, Pakistan; Mr D C Sharp, Harrogate; Mr I A Shaw, Shoreham-by-Sea; Mr D A Sheppard, CBE, St Albans; Mr C J Skelton, Altrincham; Dr R H Smith, Australia; Mr A K Straughair, Newcastle upon Tyne; Dr M N Sweeting, Guildford; Mr J E Taylor, Preston; Dr P Thompson, London; Mr G P Tilson, New Zealand; Mr P W Tomlinson, Hong Kong; Mr M M Vance, Leatherhead; Mr J J Wallis, Amersham; Dr K Warwick, Reading; Dr B Wharmby, Leicester; Mr C Wheddon, Felixstowe; Mr R M N Wijesuriya, Sri Lanka, and Mr A G Wray, Ringwood.

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Be forebearing with one another and charitable. Spare no effort to make fast with bonds of peace the unity which the Spirit gives. Ephesians 4:3. N.E.B.

BIRTHS

GARNHAM - On January 13th, at The West London Hospital, to Louise (nee Turner) and Hugh, a son, George Alexander, a brother for Guy. Grateful thanks to all the staff at The Lister Hospital.

GARRETT - On January 21st, to Anna (nee Mellows) and Edward, a son, James William.

GRETEMEIER - On January 19th 1991, in Canterbury, to Trine (nee Nodeland) of Oslo, Norway and Keith, the gift of a son, Nicholas Alexander, their first child.

HAMILTON - On January 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Fiona (nee Scott-Adie) and Andrew, a son, Malcolm, brother to Charles.

HENLEY - On January 5th, at King's College Hospital, to Sonia (nee Wiseman) and Christopher, a delightful son, Harry Christian.

JENKINS - On January 9th, to Terri and Bryn, a daughter, Aimée Eloise Nicola, a sister for Craig, Aaron, Gareth and Grant.

KIKURA - On January 19th, at the Humana Hospital Wellington, to Takako and Keiichi, a daughter, Erica.

MOSTYN - On January 16th to Mark and Jane (nee Rhodes), a son Joshua Marcus Joseph.

OLLIFF - On January 23rd 1991, to Julie and Simon, a daughter, Lucy.

PAWSON - On September 8th, to Linda and Nicholas, a daughter.

RICE - On January 17th, to Emma and Matthew, a daughter, Catherine Hope.

ROHAN - On January 21st 1991, to Amanda (nee Kent) and Simon, a son, a brother for Jessica and Jack.

ROSCOE - On January 18th, to Liz and Andrew, a daughter, Isabel Charlotte, a sister for Sophie. Many thanks to the staff at Queen Charlotte's Hospital.

ROSIER - On January 22nd 1991, at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn, to Kate (nee Johnson) and Nick, a son, Henry.

SHIMIZU - On January 19th, at the Humana Hospital Wellington, to Kikue and R Bovalta, a son, Shoji Joe.

STUDD - On January 23rd, to Heemer (nee Garioch) and Garry, a daughter, Sophie, a companion for Muff and Brae.

VIZOR - On January 12th, to Pippa (nee Birtles) and Jon, a son, Joshua Matthew, a brother for Dominic and Georgina.

WEATHERLY - On January 20th, to Anne (nee Beckerlegge) and Roger, a son, Laurence, a brother for Andrew.

WEBB-BOWEN - On January 19th, at St Thomas' Hospital, London, to Georgina (nee Spratt) and Anthony, a daughter, Charlotte.

DEATHS

ADYE - On January 21st, peacefully at Horton General Hospital, Banbury, Martin Frederick, beloved husband of Valerie. A service for family and friends will be held at Tredington Church on Monday January 28th at 12 noon. No flowers please but donations to the Church of England Children's Society c/o The Rector, Reverend Philip Elliott, The Rectory, Tredington, Warwickshire.

ALLEN - On January 22nd 1991, suddenly, Canon Derek W. Allen, Vicar of the Church of St Saviour & St Peter, Eastbourne, Sussex. *Requiem Mass* at the Church on Wednesday January 30th at 2 pm, followed by private cremation. No flowers please but if desired, donations to the Long-Haired Dachshund Rescue Fund c/o W.J. & J.A. Howe, 6 Rhosse Road, Rhosse, S. Glam, CF6 9EP.

COX - On January 21st, at Daventry, Edwin Cox OBE, after a long illness, aged 74 years. Husband of Jean, father of James, Tony and Nicola and dear grandfather of Robert and Theresa. Emeritus Reader at the Institute of Education, University of London and Associate Fellow of the University of Warwick. Funeral and Service of Thanksgiving at St Martin's Church, Welton, Northamptonshire, on Monday January 28th at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Research Campaign, 67 Thornby Drive, Northampton. A Memorial Service will be held in London later.

CURSHAM - On January 21st, peacefully at South Brent, Dr. Anthony Curshan. Funeral Service at Parish Church, South Brent, Devon, on Saturday January 26th at 11 am. Flowers to Perrins Funeral Services, 101a High St., Totnes. Tel: (0803) 862417.

DACOMBE - On January 19th 1991, peacefully at Langport, Somerset, Ursula Dacombe, aged 84. *Funeral Service at Yeovil* Crematorium on Wednesday January 30th at 11.30 am. Flowers may be sent to Forsey & Son, tel: (0458) 72297.

DE KENZIE-BRETT - On January 15th, peacefully in hospital, Winifred, aged 90 years, widow of Norman, mother of Alan, whose wife is Ana, grandmother to Sarah and Stephen. *Service at Cruswick New Cemetery*, 11.30 am, January 29th. Flowers or, if desired, donations in lieu payable to F.W. Paine Funeral Directors, 468 Chiswick High Road, London W4, on behalf of The League of Friends of Charing Cross Hospital.

EVANS - On January 22nd, William Noel, Priest, aged 87, husband of the late Frances Mary, loving father of Bridget and David and devoted grandfather. Headmaster of Aberystwyth 1949-69. Funeral Service at 11.30 am on Saturday January 26th at Llandar Church, followed by private burial. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the Abbeyfield Society (Aberystwyth) to 60 Great Darkgate St. Memorial Service later in the year.

FAUDEL-PHILLIPS - On January 18th, suddenly but peacefully, Olive Mary Eldon Faudel-Phillips, wife of the late Harry Faudel Faudel-Phillips, Private cremation. No flowers and no mourning at her request.

GALEWICZ - On January 17th 1991, suddenly in hospital, Roman Marian Emil, in his 75th year. Beloved husband, father and grandfather. Mass will be held at NMP Church, 2 Windsor Road, London W5, on Monday January 28th 1991, at 10.45 am, *followed by cremation* at Mortlake at 12 noon. Flowers and enquiries to W.S. Bond, 9 Church Road, Acton, London W3 8PP, telephone: 081-992 1531.

HARRISON - On January 19th, peacefully at home in Newton Solney, Charles Bernard, M.B.E., of Coes (Derby) Ltd. Funeral Monday January 28th. Enquiries (0283) 68431.

HILL - On January 21st, in Ashgate Hospice, Chesterfield, Geoffrey Hill, aged 77 years, former Company Director, Eyres of Chesterfield. Funeral Service at Chesterfield Crematorium on Friday January 25th at 2pm. Enquiries to Hattersley's, tel: (0246) 232820.

LARDNER - On January 22nd, suddenly at his home, Reginald Albert, of 7 Lower End, Piddington, near Bicester, aged 73 years. Cremation at Oxford Crematorium on Friday January 25th at 3.15 pm. *Donations, if desired, to* Bicester Day Centre c/o R.J. Tyrrell, 21 Lambourne Crescent, Bicester.

LIDDLE - On January 21st, peacefully at St Margaret's Somerset Hospice, of Charlstock, near Axminster, Mary Patricia (widow of Edward Arthur), aged 70 years. Beloved mother of Ally and David and dearly loved grandmother of Mary and Tom. The funeral service is to take place at Wanstrow Parish Church, near Cheddi, Somerset, on Monday January 28th 1991 at 2.30 pm, followed by interment. Family flowers only, but donations in lieu may be sent if desired for St Margaret's Somerset Hospice, c/o H. Bishop & Sons Funeral Directors, Chard.

MAHERSON - On January 16th 1991, peacefully in Cambridge from pneumonia, Philip Nicholas Seton, O.B.E., LL.D., F.S.A., formerly Master of St John's College and Professor of the History of the British Commonwealth, husband of Diana and father of Philip, Daphne, Martin, Nicholas and Jane, very much loved. Funeral Service in St John's College Chapel to be arranged later.

MARGERESS - On January 10th 1991, suddenly at home in Richmond Mansions, London SW5, Wisetree (Freda), much loved mother of Myriam, resident in Arizona, USA. Funeral to be arranged. Enquiries 081-743 0806 Ann Bellinger.

MARROW - On January 19th, Joseph F., aged 72. Funeral Service on Wednesday January 30th at Farm Street Church, Mayfair, at 10 am, followed by burial at Gunnersbury Cemetery. Flowers and enquiries to W Gordon & Sons (071) 935 4868.

MAYHEW - On January 22nd 1991, Marshal, much loved wife of John, mother of James, Kate and the late Guy Aubrey. *Service at* Lodge Hill Crematorium, Birmingham, on Thursday January 31st at 12 noon. Family flowers only please.

McVETTY - On December 26th 1990, at a Bournemouth nursing home, Robert John, aged 81 years. Service Bournemouth East Cemetery on Monday January 28th 1991 at 12 noon. Enquiries George Scott Funeral Directors. (0202) 595827.

MILLWARD - On January 20th 1991, suddenly but peacefully at home, Austin Millward, aged 63 years. Beloved husband of Doris and much loved father of David and Julia. Will be greatly missed by all family and friends. Service at Lodge Hill Crematorium, Selly Oak, Birmingham, on Tuesday January 29th at 10.30 am. Flowers may be delivered to his home or the Amber Funeral Home, Moseley, Birmingham. 'Death devours all lovely things'.

MUCH - On January 21st, at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, Alan Fraser, dearly loved husband of Helen, much loved father of Annie, Ian, Katie and Rosie. Funeral Service at St George's Church, Dunster, at 1 pm Friday January 25th. Family flowers or donations if desired to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Fund, J & E Hayes Funeral Directors, Boarhayes Lane, Porlock, Somerset.

NICOLL - On January 10th 1991, Alistair (Wac), whilst on holiday in Kenya. Beloved husband of Sheila, father of Cat and Angus and grandfather of Malcolm and Alistair. Cremation service and cremation held privately.

O'DONNELL - On January 21st 1991, at Clatterbridge Hospital, Roger. Husband of Sheila, father of Mark, James and Dominic, father-in-law of Marguerite and beloved *grandpa of Rory James.* R.I.P. Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Pity Church, Oswaldtwistle on Tuesday January 29th at 2 pm, followed by cremation at Landican Crematorium at 3 pm. Flowers or donations for the British Diabetic Association may be sent to the T.A. Ball Funeral Service, 95 Woodchurch Road, Birkenhead.

PARKER - On January 22nd 1991, peacefully at Pascoe Hospital, Banbury, after a long illness suffered with great fortitude, Irene (Baby), of Long Compton, the very dear wife for 42 years of Geoffrey, mother of Tom, grandmother of Harry and Rees, - Funeral at Long Compton Parish Church on Saturday January 26th at *12.50 pm.* Family flowers only, donations if desired to Long Compton Parish Church.

PATERSON - On January 18th, peacefully in Malvern, John Allan, Agent General in London for the Province of New Brunswick 1959-1978. Husband of Suzy and loving father of Bill, Colin, John and Robert, greatly missed by all his family. Funeral Service at Worcester Crematorium on Friday January 25th at 3 pm. Family flowers only; donations if desired to The Brain Diabetes Association, 10 Queen Anne Street, W1M 0BD.

POTTER - On January 20th 1991, peacefully in hospital, Elizabeth, aged 80 years. By her request no funeral service.

SCHAT - On January 18th, Anneke, aged 78 years, at Watford General Hospital. Mourned by her children and friends. There will be a private funeral service at West Hars Crematorium.

SCOVELL - On January 22nd, suddenly, Frederick Alsersop (Amby) Holl, aged 75. Dearly loved husband of Doreen and father of Simon and Georgina. Funeral at the Parish Church, Welton-Le-Marsh, Lincolnshire, on Monday January 28th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to the N.S.P.C.C.

STEEL - On Tuesday January 22nd, Claire, aged 31. Beloved wife of Mark and daughter of Malcolm Lockey at home after a long, brave fight against cancer. Funeral Service at St Mary's, Chilton Foliat, near Hungerford, Thursday January 29th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3 or St Raphael's Hospice, Cheam.

TARRY - On January 20th, at his son's home in Ireland, Ernest, beloved husband of Lila, late of Hudson Verity and Donald & Mackintosh. Private cremation at his own wish.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ALLISONE - The Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Eric Allisone will be held at Leeds Parish Church on Friday February 1st 1991 at 2pm.

WILLIAMS - A Memorial Service for Arthur Williams, formerly Senior Obstetric and Gynaecological consultant at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, will be held on Saturday February 16th at 2.30 pm, in the University Church of St Mary The Virgin, High Street, Oxford.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

BOARDMAN Remembering always my mother Bertha, who died 24 January 1986 in her 96th year. M.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

BARBER FREDERICK WILLIAM BARBER late of 5 Singleton Grove, Sheffield died At Sheffield on 9th September 1990

(Estate about £120,000)

BLOY. MAURICE CHARLES BLOY late of 46, Gordon Road, Dereham, Norfolk died At Norwich, Norfolk on 31st October 1989

(Estate about £55,000)

BROOKE. ARNOLD BROOKE late of Beamingby Hall, Beamingby, Bridlington, North Humberside died There on 6th May 1989

(Estate about £35,000)

CAMERON. ALISTAIR IAN STUART CAMERON late of 4, Thirlmere House, Howard Road, Stoke Newington, London N16 died At Charterhouse, London EC1 on 14th December 1989

(Estate about £7,000)

GANEY. CHARLES WILLIAM GANEY late of 73 Hillborough Court, Livermere Road Hackney, London E8 died There on 23rd July 1988

(Estate about £9,580)

HUMPHREYS. IRENE ELSIE HUMPHREYS otherwise EIRENE MERRIDD HUMPHREYS late of Glanymor 54 Cemaes Road, Brecon, Powys died At Swansea, West Glamorgan on 20th November 1988

(Estate about £110,000)

SHERRIN otherwise EVANS. JOHN NELSON SHERRIN otherwise NORMAN NELSON EWART EVANS late of Crofside, Beetham Road, Milnthorpe, Cumbria died at Kendal Cumbria on 10th April 1988

(Estate about £48,000)

MELHUISH. OTTO GEORGE ERIC MELHUISH otherwise OTTO GEORGE ERIC MELHUISH late of 17 Grey Gables, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire died At Barnet, Hertfordshire on 18th June 1990

(Estate about £45,000)

PARKIN. ARTHUR WILFRED PARKIN late of The Old Post Office, Main Street, Killinghall, Harrogate, North Yorkshire died There on 23rd July 1990

(Estate about £248,000)

RYMAN nee TILLEY. EVELYN MARY RYMAN otherwise EVELYN RYMAN nee TILLEY late of Magnolia House, 110 Crowstone Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex died At Rochford, Essex on 9th October 1987

(Estate about £40,000)

The Kin of the above named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, stating which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - Dean Symons Memorial Fund

The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for the Charity. A copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Albans House 57 60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference number 262865-A1-LA.

WILSON. ROBERT WILSON late of Tooting Bec Hospital, Tooting Bec Road, Tooting, London SW17 died there on 15th May 1989

(Estate about £55,000)

The widow and kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.) Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, stating which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

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LEGAL NOTICES

BARKING POWER LIMITED
NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CONSTRUCT A GAS FIRED COMBINED CYCLE POWER STATION AT BARKING REACH IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARKING AND DAGENHAM AND THE LONDON BOROUGH OF SEXLEY

Notice is hereby given that Barking Power Limited ("the Company") has applied under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 ("the Act") for the consent of the Secretary of State for Energy to construct a gas fired combined cycle power station at Barking Reach in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and the London Borough of Bexley, and for a Direction under Section 90(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted.

The new station to be known as Barking Reach Power Station would have a normal capacity of 1000 megawatts (MW) consisting of 6 gas turbine generators, and 6 steam turbine generators.

A copy of the application, with a plan showing the land to which it relates together with a copy of the Environmental Statement containing the Company's proposals in more detail and describing an analysis of the environmental implications, are available for inspection during normal office hours at the following address: London Borough of Barking and Dagenham Development and Technical Services Department, Town Hall, Barking, Essex IG11 7LU. London Borough of Barking and Dagenham Public Library, Barking, Essex, IG11 7LU. London Borough of Bexley Town Planning Department, Manor House, The Green, Bexley, Kent, DA5 1NP. London Borough of Bexley Public Library, Townley Road, Bexley Heath, Kent, DA6 7HJ and Thames Power Limited, Devonshire House, Mayfair Place, London, W1X 5FH.

In addition, copies of the Environmental Statement may be obtained at a cost of £60 by writing to Aandown Environmental Limited, 6 Old Barns, Ryrcot Lane Farm, Standlake, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX9 2NZ while stocks last.

Any objection should be made in writing to the Secretary of State for Energy, Electricity Division "A" Room 2.B.3, 1 Palace Street, Victoria, London, SW1A 5HE, stating the name of the station and the grounds of objection, not later than 22nd February 1991.

ASHURST MORRIS CRISP
on behalf of
Barking Power Limited

HI-SPEC CIRCUITS LIMITED
Registered number 2075479
Nature of business Manufacturer of Printed Circuit Boards Trade classification 11 Date of appointment of administrative receivers 14th January 1991 Name of person appointing the administrative receivers NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK PLC I J SCHAPIRA and K D GOODMAN Joint Administrative Receivers Office holder nos. 8784 and 2407 of Leeming Curtis & Co., PO BOX 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 AND IN THE MATTER OF WALLABY CLOTHING CO LIMITED
TRADING NAME: "WALLABY"
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above Company will be held on 12th February 1991 at 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that James Taylor FCPA of 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2) (b) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.

DATED this 16th day of January 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
M FARRIER
DIRECTOR

IN THE MATTER OF OBAC LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that I, Edwin Kirker of New Garden House, 78 Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8JA was appointed Liquidator of the said Company on 4th January 1991 by the Creditors.

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LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION No 0012271 of 1990 IN THE MATTER OF

Camera sorts out the fishy catches

Fish may soon have their pictures taken to trap the trawler crews who exceed quotas, putting stocks at risk. **Malcolm Brown** reports

One of a fisherman's most tedious chores is counting and grading the catch. Because of overfishing, catches have become much more mixed and a quota system has been introduced by the European Community. EC regulations, to which the UK subscribes, mean catches must be graded by species and size, a labour-intensive business.

But scientists at Torry Research Station, Aberdeen, which belongs to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF), have developed an image-processing method which could make hand sorting redundant.

The system, which is expected to be tried at sea on a fisheries research vessel towards the end of this year, is a combination of video camera and computer that can be taught to recognise many species of fish.

According to Norval Strachan, the physicist developing the machine, it can discriminate between 18 different species with 100 per cent accuracy.

Some clever mathematics built into the system mean that even fish which are not lying flat can be identified. The computer simply "unscrambles" the awkward posture of the fish.

The machine is taught by an operator to recognise the various species by being shown about 20 examples of each species. The system scrutinises the image of, say, a haddock, noting its length, width and colour. Each individual fish is slightly different, but the machine soon learns the basic shape and colour and the parameters, which may vary while still remaining the same species.

Once it has been programmed, the machine can then determine automatically which species it is looking at.

At present, scanning and identification take between 20 and 30 seconds. That would be too slow for operations at sea, because fish gutting machines work much faster, but Mr Strachan says that speeding up the system should be relatively easy.

The team hopes to incorporate parallel processors in the system which should cut identification time to less than two seconds. The development, partly funded by the EC, may have a number of uses other than pure headcounting for the statisticians in Brussels.

One problem is the allegation that some skippers may be misrepresenting the locations where they made a catch. Vessels which have reached their quota in one region, say the North Sea, may bring back more, but mislead the authorities by claiming that the excess fish were caught in another area, such as the Irish Sea.

They could be caught out, however, if, as the scientists suspect, there are discernible colour variations in the same species in different regions. North Sea fish, for example, could not be represented as coming from another region because their distinctive colour might give them away.

The system could also be equipped with a facility which specifies the trawler's location when the fish are being caught. Another possibility would be to develop the machine to enable it to identify individual fish. At present scientists wanting to follow the lives of particular fish in research tanks must catch them, tag them, and then catch them again at some later date.

The system could photograph them through a viewing panel. Certain fish, such as mackerel, have distinctive individual markings which can be picked up by a pattern recognition machine, almost as though each fish has its own fingerprint or bar code.

If all vessels were equipped with the system, the information contained in the machine could eventually be sent by satellite to collection points in Brussels or the ministry. Torry scientists are convinced that the machine could be built at a cost that would make its widespread use quite feasible.

DEREK IRONSIDE



Hooking the crooks: Norval Strachan with his fish identifying camera

Selection tests get tough for graduates

The recession and student increases are making computer careers hard to find

JOBSCENE

For many years, information technology (IT) employers have had to compete to entice graduates to join their companies. However, this year such companies are cutting back on recruitment.

In 1990, IBM employed more than 200 graduates, but is not recruiting any this year. Last week, employee and student career bodies warned that computer-related recruitment is showing the largest fall in numbers of any industry.

ICL is recruiting 260 graduates this year, compared with 300 last year. Graduates in computer science and electronics will get 30 per cent of the jobs, while the remainder will be drawn from business and finance graduates.

"Graduates at the margin of our criteria might have been given an interview before, but this is unlikely now," says Peter Forbes, ICL's human resources manager. "We are looking for those with a more solid history of achievement than just a good academic record, as results are only one element. We also want personal and social skills and perhaps work experience. We are beginning to find that we can afford to be more selective than previously because of the oversupply of graduates this year."

'We are looking for more than just a good academic record'

The same message is repeated by the Computing Services Association (CSA), which warns that this year's graduates will also face competition from those who did not land a job in IT last year.

"IT employers were not so pernickety about quality in the past, but will be tightening up their selection criteria this year, and will only take on those who really want to make IT their career as opposed to those who may be attracted to the industry for other reasons," says Sue Robinson, the chair of the CSA's personnel group.

To add to the gloom, the number of graduates this year has increased by 5 per cent over 1990, with more than 60 per cent of the 135,000 graduates looking for jobs immediately. Much of the increase is due to the rise in women and mature-age students entering higher education. Women now account for almost half of entrants and mature-age students about a sixth.

From 1979 to 1988, the numbers of graduates finding science and engineering jobs grew by 35 per cent, but the number of job vacancies has not kept pace.

"The supply of high-quality graduates with good personal skills, motivation and discipline is not growing, but the demand is," says Richard Pearson, the deputy director of the Institute of Manpower Studies (IMS).

"The rest, about 60 to 70 per cent of graduates, with more variable qualities, are continuing to grow. Some of them will lose out, particularly as we are facing a recession at the same time."

In the longer term, the IMS predicts that graduate recruitment targets could be 30 per cent higher at the end of the century than they are now. IBM says it is likely to start recruiting graduates again next year. Although IT companies are increasingly recruiting graduates with non-technical degrees, the numbers of students taking technology courses are expected to decline in the Nineties and lead to severe shortages.

However, for engineers and scientists there is still strong demand among graduate recruiters, reflecting a steady trend away from engineering and some of the applied sciences towards business and related studies over the past decade. That trend is becoming more pronounced among women and mature-age students, who have contributed to the increased number of graduates.

LESLIE TILLEY

Fighting cancer without surgery

Every year in Britain, about 7,000 men die from prostate cancer, and about 11,000 others contract the disease. Although second only to lung tumours in its high death rate, the condition has been relatively neglected by researchers.

Two developments this week reflect the growing importance of the condition in our ageing population. A new treatment has been launched, and a project aimed at finding better ways to combat the disease has begun.

The prostate gland is a small organ, about the size of a golf ball, located below the bladder and in front of the rectum, that has a key role in the production of semen. Later in life, it tends to increase in size and change in shape, obstructing urine from the bladder.

These may be the first symptoms of prostate cancer, but in 80 per cent of cases, the disease is at advanced stage before it is diagnosed. The factors that trigger it are not fully understood, but the condition is known to be dependent on testosterone, the male sex hormone.

Until now, conventional treatment involved the removal of the hormone, either by oestrogen drugs that block its action, or by surgical removal of the testes, which produce it.

But this week, Lederle Laboratories, a drug company based at High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, marketed Prostap SR, a new hormonal treatment for advanced cases. The drug acts by first stimulating and then inhibiting testosterone secretion until it reaches castrate levels after two to four weeks.

Monthly injections then maintain the hormone at the castrate level to deprive the tumour of stimulation and stop or slow its progression.

A trial involving 52 patients in the United Kingdom and Ireland showed that the drug achieved one complete remission and 29 partial remissions. The disease was stable in others, and progressive in five patients.

In new research work, Dr Fouad Habib, the senior lecturer in biochemistry at Edinburgh university's department of surgery, is studying factors governing the growth of cells in the prostate.

"In its early stages, the cancer appears to be dependent on the hormone, and almost 90 per cent of patients respond favourably to standard treatment at first.

"After a time, however, we see the proliferation of a different type of cell, which is not responsive to conventional endocrine therapy," Dr Habib says.

These new "hormone independent" cells only appear to become active when the "hormone sensitive" cells in the gland stop growing in response to treatment. Understanding the reasons why these new cells develop will be an important advance.

"We know that they are stimulated by growth factors, peptides secreted by the cells themselves. If we could identify their source, it would open up the possibility of developing antibodies to control cell growth in the prostate."

Such an approach might prevent the spread of cancerous tissue, while at the same time promoting the growth of normal, healthy cells, according to Dr Habib.

His work is funded by the Association for International Cancer Research, a charity based at St Andrews, Fife, in Scotland. "The ultimate hope is to substitute a purely medical treatment for surgery," he says.

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Doctors with a double duty

Front-line service doctors often face an agonising personal conflict, says Dr Thomas Stuttaford



Military medicine: commanding officer Colonel Glynne Jones in a British field hospital near Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, this week

When my father died, my mother rejected the stonemason's plea that the Royal Army Medical Corps motto, *In arduis fidelis*, roughly translated as faithful or staunch in adversity, should be chiselled on his tombstone, fearing that some might see it as an unfair reflection on their marital harmony rather than a reference to the Somme and Passchendaele, and the expression of the ideal to which all service doctors strive. In the Gulf, doctors are again tending their patients in adversity, with the centuries-old fortitude they display in war.

Service doctors see themselves as true occupational physicians, for they pursue the same occupations as the patients they care for; they are at the same time serving officers and doctors, and are trained to accept the disciplines of both professions.

The doctors' two roles can produce conflict. Surgeon Commander Morgan O'Connell, who served in the Falklands campaign, has written of the difficulties service doctors have in coming to terms with their training to heal and with being part of an efficient killing machine. While the service doctor is general practitioner to his unit and their families, getting to know well the small community, he trains for war by joining his unit on exercises.

All doctors have to learn to deal with casualties without displaying any emotion. The myth is perpetuated that a patient mutilated in a multiple pile-up on the M25 can be equated with one blasted by shrapnel; both need to have an airway established, require resuscitation, transfusion and surgery. But whereas a casualty officer in a hospital deals with strangers, the medical officer is often treating his close friends. For the good of the unit, he may have to suppress his feelings for the individual.

Commander O'Connell has described the feelings of naval doctors when the ship in which they are serving is hit. Their immediate instinct as doctors is to respond to the cries and pleas of injured comrades; but as naval officers they know that if any fire is not put out, and damage controlled, the ship with all its crew may be lost. The unit has to take precedence and the injured must wait, but the doctor may hear their cries in his dreams for years to come.

Steven Hughes was the medical officer of the Second Parachute Regiment for two years. By the time of Goose Green and Wireless Ridge in the Falklands, he had become wedded to the regiment — they were his adopted family. He relished their enthusiasm for action and admired their team spirit, which was enhanced by their very special training. Battle experience strengthens the relationship. "No description is adequate, is good enough, to describe the effect of battle on this bonding," he says. "Once you've shared an experience with your unit in which the normal rules of society have broken down, and men have become primeval, this bonding is complete."

Such total identification has its problems. Within the greater family of the regiment a nuclear family of commanding officer, adjutant and medical officer easily becomes established. Dr Hughes loved and admired his commanding officer, the charismatic Colonel "H" Jones. "He became my military father," Dr Hughes says. "The adjutant, David Wood, and I were also close friends; if the commanding officer was my father, the adjutant was my brother.

"Both were killed together, but I had to get on with my job, seemingly impassive as my adopted family lay dead beside me. This was not the time for complicated psychiatric feelings, and I knew that grief would have to come later. Anguish is absorbed, and collects like pus in an abscess; if it is not let out it will erupt sooner or later." In Dr Hughes's case it erupted years later; suddenly, while working in a civilian hospital, he lost control; panic ensued and he needed psychiatric support. All the emotions he had suppressed at Goose Green burst out and crippled him: he was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Dr Hughes believes that 20 per cent of people who have lived through similar experiences, either in war or in peacetime disasters, will need specialised help such as group therapy, to provide mutual support and to enable the patient to relive the experiences and express the emotions he or she had to stifle earlier. The process can be helped by subjecting patients to the sounds, sights and even smells of the battle zone they have survived, sometimes using approved audiovisual aids. Doctors have noticed that patients do better in military or naval hospitals, not just because they meet greater understanding but also because the sight of uniforms and the clatter of helicopters help to turn back the memory clock.

Brigadier Peter Abraham, the army's director of psychiatry and also a former paratroop medical officer, wrote in the *RAMC Journal* after the Falklands campaign of the need for field teams who could look after soldiers' psychiatric well-being at the front line. *Jane's Defence Weekly* has reported that such teams have been established, so it is reasonable to surmise that they are now serving in the Gulf. If they had been available in the Falklands, Dr Hughes's story might have been very different. As it is, he is his old self again, and anxious to go out to the Gulf — "but only if the Parachute Regiment goes. They are my family; I could never feel such affinity for any other unit."

Pain relief at the press of a button

Battle casualties and pregnant women will feel the benefits of do-it-yourself drugs

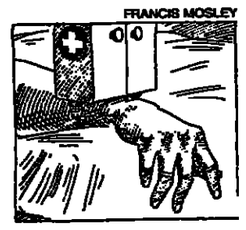
SURGERY, whether it is performed in a teaching hospital or a spartan field unit, is likely to leave the patient in moderate to severe pain. And although drugs are available to relieve the discomfort, it seems we often endure the pain rather than interrupt the busy nurse. But for Gulf war casualties such silent suffering could be unnecessary.

They will be the first servicemen to benefit from a new form of self-administered pain relief.

After surgery in desert field hospitals, they will be able to control the amount of drugs they receive by pressing a button on a watch-like device to inject small quantities of opiates straight into the vein. It can be pressed every six minutes but cutout devices mean overdoses are impossible.

Similar devices providing patient controlled analgesia (PCA) are becoming available in hospitals throughout Britain. And the benefits of PCA, particularly after operations on the chest and upper abdomen when even breathing can be painful, will be discussed today at a meeting of the Royal Society of Medicine.

FRANCIS MOSLEY



Peter Macey, aged 44, a builder from Cardiff, used PCA following a hernia operation last November. "Whenever I felt a twinge, I pressed the button, and I was pleased not to keep bothering the nurses," he says. "I wasn't in pain and I was not drowsy or confused. After I was taken off the machine, I did need a painkilling injection, and then I saw the difference — everything was a blur."

David Hatch, professor of children's anaesthesia at Great Ormond Street hospital in London, says PCA has been used for patients aged five and over. "The difference is obvious. Children who would have been quiet and in pain are laughing and smiling."

One advantage of the "little and often" approach of PCA is that the drug dose received by patients is much lower than that contained in an injection. As a result, side-effects such as nausea and breathing problems are minimised.

Patient controlled analgesia overcomes one of the most perplexing problems facing the anaesthetist: the amount of medication to give a patient. At present, doses are calculated according to the weight of the patient, and adjusted later if they appear to be inadequate.

However, Brigadier John Restall, the army's consultant adviser on anaesthetics, points out: "No two people experience the same degree of pain and patient-controlled analgesia allows for this variation. Senior officers can have a particular problem when they are wounded. They are used to being in control and they suddenly find themselves in bed, in pain. PCA gives them back some of that lost control."

The Gulf casualties will use disposable devices which cost £18 each. But it is probably more cost effective in the long term to use fixed devices controlled by microprocessors, costing up to £3,000.

Dr Michael Harmer, a consultant anaesthetist at the University Hospital of Wales and a pioneer of PCA, says: "Patients tend to recover more quickly and leave hospital earlier, so it isn't long before the machine pays for itself."

AT LEICESTER Royal Infirmary, some women are using PCA during labour rather than having painkilling injections of pethidine. Dr David Rowbotham, a consultant anaesthetist, admits that PCA is not as effective in childbirth as an epidural but it does work as well as pethidine, while giving mother and baby lower doses of opiates. "Some of our ladies who don't want an epidural prefer PCA and seem satisfied with the results," he says. "They like the idea of being in control."

ANN KENT

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WORLD RALLY CHAMPIONS FOR A RECORD BREAKING NINE TIMES

DEDRA. THE NEW LANCIA

An Italian Barnum of bullets

Michael Wright on an Ancient Mariner capologue by a theatrical anti-hero

In reviewing any novel in which suspense plays a part, the second reading is often as telling as the first. That probably sounds rather swotty, and threatens the popular image of the critic as a disaffected goblin, basing his grudgements upon a glimpse at the first chapter, last page, and dust jackets of the latest tome. It may also seem unfair. But second readings matter, whether they evoke the fascination of a stunning action replay in slow motion, or the deathly tedium of a game of murder in the dark played in broad daylight.

This novel — by the author of *Hiroshima Joe*, etc. — slips towards the latter category. Booth relies heavily upon suspense to preserve momentum. Deprived of this, the narrative loses its dark sparkle and threatens to falter beneath a choppy torrent of irrelevant details and faceless characters. An air of grim, shallow irony prevails, but the initial buoyancy is lost. This is definitely not a book to take to a desert island.

Like ever so many other baddies, "Signor Farfalla" is an eerie fusion of the wicked and the civilised, and his ambivalent character is reflected in the chiaroscuro of his first-person narrative. Told largely in the present tense, this contrasts "the etherial twilight world of the lawbreaker" with the "lazy, soporific sunlight of southern Italy". Here, combining an engrossing fetish for privacy with an outwardly free and easy nature, Signor Farfalla enjoys lazy afternoons of banter and Armagnac with his friend the local priest, and is wryly accepted by the wizened cronies of the town bars. Clara, a young student whom he encounters in the town brothel, is hopelessly in love with him, and yet no one has the faintest idea who he is.

A VERY PRIVATE GENTLEMAN
By Martin Booth
Century, £13.99

The motive for Farfalla's narrative is equally unclear, unless it be an Ancient Mariner urge to share his dark hubris with the reader. He declares that "because of me and my actions the cast of history is configured", and it is this that sustains him in the dodgy dealings of his one last job before retirement. According to Farfalla, "to alter history you have to kill your fellow man. Or cause them to be killed". So he customises the sub-machine guns and fills the tips of bullets with mercury.

The novel misfires because Booth allows too much free rein to the horribly precious side of Farfalla's character. "I live by detail, by minute particulars. Without such attention to detail, I would be dead." Perhaps so, but he might also have made a livelier and less irritating narrator. His endless euphuism about his surroundings alienates the reader, who is squeezed out by the linguistic carpet bombing. He bombinates: "My life is clear cut. There are no frayed edges where reality shrouds into myth."

Indeed. But because of this lack of "frayed edges" — of *sfumato* — there is little room for our active sympathy. Farfalla is a windbag of an anti-hero. In his own eyes, Farfalla is "the Barnum of bullets, the Andrew Lloyd Webber of murder, the D'Oyly Carte of death". Theatrical comparisons proliferate throughout. But somehow a truly dramatic element is missing, and Farfalla is mistaken when he describes his "tragic-comedy of fate" as being "as formally structured as a Greek drama".

He is probably closer to the truth when he declares that, "We might have been harp players from *A Room with a View*, my visitor and I." Farfalla never has the stage presence to seem more than a part player; an understudy for an indisposed narrator, perhaps.



Martin Booth of *Hiroshima Joe* turns his rat-tat-tat typer on a tough, nasty guy from the Mezzogiorno

The cool beauty of the set design — of Booth's beautifully Forstered landscapes — is the principal and lasting pleasure of the book. Much of the description is very fine and very vivid: "The mountains under vales of black clad widows peering into an open casket: the villagers with the glint of funeral candles in their eyes." This is not merely a beautiful image: it also quietly fuses the two worlds of the novel, the murderer and his terrain.

Too often the descriptive imagery is overloaded with laboured symbolism, or — like the minor characters — remains incidental to the narrative; mere padding that has puffed what might have been a shapely short story into an overweight novel. This glutted glob is fragmented into short sections, and, combined with the drumming of Farfalla's taut, gritty sentences, (a rat tat tat of main verbs with hardly a participle in sight), the overall effect approximates a series of rapid bursts of machine gun fire. In purely stylistic terms, and to draw a comparison from one of Farfalla's own jaunts into the country, reading the book is about as comfortable as riding in a 2CV being thrashed over a mountain range in second gear. Once is enough.

Chips on brain with Bulgar sauce

THRILLERS
Chris Petit

BENCHLEY'S CHIP
By Carl A. Posey
Robert Hale, £14.95

A POOR cover, dreary title, dour Bulgarian setting, and pages so densely set they have the look and appeal of a three-month-old snowdrift . . . **Benchley's Chip** offers little invitation, and I gave up early at the first attempt. Only a recommendation from the *Telegraph*'s more persevering critic, and the publisher's persistence, forced a reluctant return. It was worth the effort. *Benchley's Chip* could do with cutting, but is still one of the memorable thrillers of the year, a swirling, brooding work full of flinty writing, and much thought, which creates a complex mosaic from the unlikely premise that it is the Bulgarians who have developed the next stage of microchip (the one that can be programmed into the brain). US intelligence treats the news with scepticism: "Roger, would you buy a Bulgarian anything?" An expendable low-level operation is mounted, and the foxy spymaster in charge sends in his despised son-in-law, owed no favours. A strong supporting cast awaits in a grimly convincing Bulgaria: KGB, US defectors, local secret police, dissidents, a flamboyant African milking his Third World ticket, a seedy English spy, and deep cover agents; not least of Posey's accomplishments is getting inside such a range of characters. Coincidence plays an acceptable hand: once the pieces are on the board, pleasure comes from guessing how and where they will collide. A find. *Alpha minus.*

● In **Body Scissors** (*Hodder & Stoughton, £13.95*), by Jerome Doolittle, a drop-out security consultant finds himself hired to investigate a potential secretary of state with a whiter than white record, whose only hiccup in a smooth rise to the top is a family tragedy involving the murder of his estranged daughter. Good dirty laundry story, with a high sleaze content, takes the investigation into massage parlours and beyond. Though it is easy to see what's coming, given the cynicism of the author — a former White House speech writer — care is taken in the telling. Edgy confrontations, neat jargon, and a sharp ear, plus convincing Massachussets locations, lift it into the superior category. *Beta plus.*

● A certain weakness has to be admitted for Sidney Sheldon, who writes the equivalent of widescreen tosherama — an epic sweep, the broad gesture, a thudding emptiness; sloth the only deadly sin not acknowledged. **Memories of Midnight** (*Collins, £15.95*) is the sequel to *The Other Side of Midnight*, in which Greek shipping tycoon Constantin Demiris took revenge on his unfaithful mistress and lover by framing them for the murder of the lover's wife, Catherine, revealed here as still alive and cloistered in a Greek nunnery, suffering convenient memory loss. Enter Demiris, megalamania in overdrive, determined to deep-six Catherine too. Plenty of ponderous double-crosses, not least from the author who cheats on the reader whenever he can, and even when he can't. All plot and effrontery. *Beta minus.*

● In Robert Daley's **A Faint Cold Fear** (*Hutchinson, £13.99*) a New York narc gets the cold shoulder from cautious superiors, following a spectacular drugs bust, and finds himself exiled as an official observer to steamy Colombia, where he makes odd forays into a world of Glenn Baxter cartoon surrealism: "Douglas sat on a log in the Amazon jungle and stared into a fire and brooded"; as well he might. However mean the streets of New York, they have nothing on what goes down in Colombia, with enough shoot-outs for five Peckinpah films. In fact, author plays down the slo-mo bloodletting, offering instead a patina of thoughtfulness and evidence of hefty research into the Medellin drug cartels. A routinely serious affair with a NY journo on assignment provides so-so human interest. *Beta.*

● "You poor man," Kelly said. "I can't imagine trying to deal with being sued for malpractice and a breakup of a marriage at the same time." Me neither, not from reading Robin Cook's **Harmful Intent** (*Macmillan, £13.95*), a could-try-harder medical thriller, in which doc-on-the-run dons disguise to nail creepy hospital porter tampering with drug supply to conspiratorial ends. Poor action, wind-up characters, first-draft dialogue. *Beta double minus.*

The mating rituals of soap celebs

Antonia Bremner

SURRENDER THE PINK



By Carrie Fisher
Hutchinson, £12.99

CABIN FEVER
By Elizabeth Jolley
Sinclair-Stevenson, £13.95

HOW I MET MY WIFE
And Other Stories
By Nicholas Coleridge
Heinemann, £13.99

ABUSE of celebrity status is a strange accusation, but one hurled at those prominent in one field who suddenly have extraordinarily lucrative success in another. Take Carrie Fisher — the Hollywood daughter of Debbie Reynolds and Eddie Fisher, extra-terrestrial princess in the *Star Wars* trilogy, ex-wife of worldwide pop icon Paul Simon, who is now, also, a best-selling author.

Surrender The Pink, her latest novel (film rights sold to Spielberg for a million dollars), wallows in the aftermath of a long-term relationship, allegedly based on the break-up of her marriage. Far from cashing in on celebrity pain, Fisher tells the story which benefits positively from her life in the limelight: she is used to having everything exposed. The plot is therefore a thoroughly frank and up to date battle of the sexes; the chapters are divided by short descriptions of the mating rituals of different animals, while the human ritual is played out by Dinah Kaufman, a soap opera script writer, and Rudy Gendler, a playwright. They have split up: Rudy is happy with a new girlfriend, but Dinah is still obsessed. She pursues him from California to Cape Cod to spy on the mystery of domestic bliss, at one point eavesdropping from a closet, trying to work out why it went wrong with her.

Despite a lot of therapy-induced theories involving gender aspect and the demystifying of romance, the tone is good-humoured cynicism. It is an ironic ploy to have Dinah channelling her own life into episodes of *Heart's Desire*, making the dying soap hero say that the thing he is most looking forward to about death is not having to talk about relationships.

In **Cabin Fever** a successful doctor looks back to post-war Britain when she was a trainee nurse. She relives the trauma of an unwanted pregnancy by a married doctor, whose greatest intimacy was a whisper to the effect that, "because of his knowing me, it did not seem as if the whole world consisted of haemorrhoids".

It is a dreary story, deadened by the catalogue of food: plastic scrambled egg, Spam, burnt celery, margarine, sloppy white blancmanges; and it is not helped by details of tuberculous haemorrhaging and obstetric complications. As Vera drifts on from maternity clinic to progressive boarding school to Glasgow, where she begins a seedy affair with an elderly employer, it becomes apparent that she is rather cunning and deceitful, and can well do without our sympathy. Elizabeth Jolley's combination of sadness and loneliness is so convincing that one witnesses how the briefest moments of happiness can maintain an individual's sense of optimism, without the least bit of pleasure in the reading.

The short stories of Nicholas Coleridge's first collection, **How I Met My Wife And Other Stories**, are often very funny. Though old-fashioned in that they are all tales with a twist at the end, and not always an unexpected twist, they are modern enough in subject matter: a country wedding, a rowdy football team's weekly trip to a curry house, an art student holidaying in Tuscany in philistine company. A recurring character is the obsessive. Often he is a wealthy man who meets his match (at bargaining, shooting, spending) and, being competitive, mugs up on a subject (Chinese silk painting, guns, cheque stubs) and comes up with some elaborate notion to outwit his rival, which inevitably goes wrong. These particular stories should perhaps have been more spread out through the volume to avoid the strong sense of adhesion to formula.

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FANTASY
Philippa Toomey

TEHANU
The Last Book of Earthsea
By Ursula Le Guin
Gollancz, £9.95

TWENTY years ago, with *A Wizard of Earthsea*, Ursula Le Guin began a series that has become a legend.

In this final vol. of the saga, the widow of the farmer Flint is living quietly at the farmhouse in the valley, on the island of Gont. Her daughter is happily married, and her son at sea. The people call her Goha, but her name used to be Tenar, and she has a curious history. In the past she had magical power, but she has given it up to marry and live as an ordinary woman. Ordinary she could not be, and was therefore called in to help a dreadfully abused child: raped, beaten and thrown into a fire by two men and a woman, wanderers who had left her there to die. The child, Therru, though horribly disfigured, does not die. When the Arch Mage Ogion is dying he sends for Tenar, who brings the child with her. Ogion tells her to teach Therru everything, and says that the child will be feared.

This is a world where respect for the law, and for magic, is breaking down — there is no king, and Ged, the successor to Ogion as Arch Mage, arrives on the back of a dragon, exhausted, a burnt-out case, his powers gone. There is no King, no Arch Mage, only a prophetic utterance: to look for a woman on Gont.

This is a short book, but it packs a lot in. There is the sick physical sensation of fear. A woman has a child in a house at night, and is attacked by brutal would-be murderers. Another woman is imprisoned by the hatred of a hostile mind. The power and place of women in a civilisation are put to the test. They fail in Gont, as elsewhere. We see Gont in the beauty of the flowers, the valley and the cliff top, and in the arrival of the huge dragon: rust-black scales, scarlet wings, long yellow eyes, and voice like steel sliding over steel.

Good triumphs over evil — and the woman on Gont, who may be the first woman Arch Mage, is found. She is the very last person I would have suspected, though clues have been neatly left. Spellbinding is the word for it. Catching up on the saga is going to be a real pleasure.

Whitbread winner

The Whitbread Book of the Year is **Hopeful Monsters** by Nicholas Mosley (*Secker & Warburg, £14.95*), the final and fundamental volume of his "Catastrophe Practice" series. This is an ambitious, experimental novel that settles old scores and lays ghosts of the Thirties to rest. It is elliptical and turbulent story of Max, an English student of physics and biology, and Eleanor, a German Jewess, who grows up in radical circles in Berlin. A political love story of the earthquake of our century.

Sad loves in sundry styles and seasons

PAPERBACKS
Dinah Birch

EMILY L.
By Marguerite Duras
Flamingo, £3.99

FOUR NOVELLAS
By Natalia Ginzburg
Paladin, £5.99

THE GIRL AT THE LION D'OR
By Sebastian Faulks
Vintage, £4.99

FOR all its brevity — just 112 pages — **Emily L.** gives full measure of the distinctive desolation that makes Marguerite Duras an unforgettable writer. A French woman and her lover sit in a bar overlooking the Seine estuary, confronting the end of their affair. But they are distracted from their bitter negotiations by an English couple drinking nearby. The woman is old and sick, possibly dying. Her husband seems to be in control, but soon reveals himself as the more dependent of the two. Their story is an ironic commentary on the relationship of the skirmishing pair who watch them.

A sombre shoreline enveloped in heat, alienated and uncomprehending characters caught in the toils of destructive obsession, memories of the violence and fear of a childhood in the East — *Emily L.* has many recognisably Durassian properties, including that shrewd and unsentimental compassion that has always motivated her work. But there is a new sense of elegy which tempers the hard edges of Duras's vision in this book. She has turned her attention to life's endings.

Natalia Ginzburg's **Four Novellas** observes dislocation from within the tight networks of the Italian family. Witty, wise, and stern, she writes of the hopes and betrayals that make up the relationship between parents and children. Beloved sons wed impossible women; daughters marry wastrels or (worse still) fail to marry at all. Though Ginzburg often makes trenchant comedy of the gap between parental aspirations and the wilful decisions of children, her overwhelming sense of the absurdity of our most loving expectations infuses her writing with melancholy. She evokes the inconsequentiality of shared lives. Her families are ordinary, urban, and middle class, and nothing outrageous ever happens to them. Yet their misfortunes have the power to shock. Ginzburg writes about the messiness and beauty of human experience, always inextricably intertwined.

Sebastian Faulks has a more idealistic view of things. **The Girl at the Lion d'Or** is an old-fashioned love story. Anne, very much the heroine of the book, is exactly the kind of girl on which romantic fantasy has centred for generations. She is a brave, generous and innocent orphan. But her vulnerable exterior conceals unquenchable furnaces of passion, waiting to be ignited by the presence of a powerful, sophisticated older man. She is also (need it be said?) enchantingly lovely. As it happens, Anne is a waitress in a pre-war café in France, while the man who sweeps her off her feet is a local Jewish lawyer. The best writing in the novel derives from Faulks's evident affection for its French setting. No character we meet has as much resonance and mystery as the lawyer's crumbling family home. But the structure of the narrative has little to do with France. A Scottish castle (beauteous peasant girl and laird) might have done just as well. As if to conceal their formulaic nature, Faulks describes the emotions of his ardent pair with a stiffly relentless detail that makes his novel a good deal longer than many readers might wish.

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BRIEFING

Hot stars, cold feet

FOLLOWING the decision by the Martha Graham Dance Company not to travel to Paris from New York, comes news that more American performers are suffering Gulf jitters over air travel. Dionne Warwick has cancelled her British tour, which was due to start on January 31, because of fears of possible terrorist attacks against airlines. Earlier, country and western star Dwight Yoakam pulled out of his show at the Hammersmith Odeon on March 8 for the same reason.

Glorious Twelfth?

THE Peter Hall Company is turning to Shakespeare for its next West End appearance with a production of *Twelfth Night*, which opens on February 26 at the Playhouse Theatre. Starring Eric Porter and Dinsdale Landen, the bard's comedy of mistaken identity will be directed by Sir Peter and designed by Timothy O'Brien. The Peter Hall Company, formed in 1988, has now made the Playhouse its home; when *Twelfth Night* finishes its run on May 18, Hall will direct Julie Walters in a production of Tennessee Williams' *The Rose Tattoo*, a drama of sexual awakening in 1940s Louisiana.



Playhouse rose: Julie Walters

Last chance . . .

ITALIAN fashion king Gianni Versace's much publicised costume designs for Strauss's *Capriccio* dominate the Royal Opera's tame new production. Though generally well-sung (Kiri Te Kanawa, Thomas Allen and Franz Ferdinand Nentwig) and neatly staged by John Cox, it lacks the necessary drive from the orchestral pit. As for those costumes: witty, gaudy but not worth the acres of girlish, gushing newsprint. Last performance is at the Royal Opera House, London WC2 (071-240 1066) on Saturday.

CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

Quirky package with a first-class stamp

Geoff Brown reviews Meryl Streep and Shirley MacLaine in *Postcards From The Edge*, plus *Havana*, *Rocky V*, *Catchfire* and *Akira*



Comic snatches of Hollywood life: Meryl Streep as the vulnerable drug-addict and Dennis Quaid as the predatory producer in *Postcards From The Edge*, scripted by Carrie Fisher

A young woman struggling to wrest herself from the grip of drug addiction; a battle-axe mother clogged with jealousy and alcohol. With such characters, **Postcards From The Edge** (15, Odeon Leicester Square) should offer as much fun as a dip in a snake-pit. Yet this is truly a comedy, and with good reason: these postcards come from Hollywood, land of brittle people, rampant wisecracks and make-believe.

The drug addict – attractively played by Meryl Streep – is an actress with a career in jeopardy, while her overbearing mother (Shirley MacLaine, naturally) lives on memories of her own golden age as a musical-comedy star. Mike Nichols' film, written by Carrie Fisher from her novel, bears the usual disclaimer that any similarities to people and actual events are "purely coincidental"; though if Fisher's mother had been a Cleethorpes telephone operator, say, rather than the bubbly MGM star Debbie Reynolds, we would not be watching this particular story. Fisher intimately knows her Hollywood milieu, with its bruised egos, voracious hounds, hypocrites, fools and clowns: *Postcards From The Edge* parades the circus with wit and affection.

Stripped of her usual mannerisms and fake accents, Meryl Streep tosses off the comedy with ease, and displays touching vulnerability as the brattish actress, forced under her mother's wing after a stint in a drug rehabilitation clinic. At first, MacLaine fits the mother's role too snugly, and her rendition of Stephen Sondheim's song "I'm Still Here" – the old stagers' battle cry – seems a horrible indulgence. Yet by the time the old crock is laid up in hospital herself, without wig or make-up, heartstrings have been plucked.

Mike Nichols keeps a tight hand on the caustic patter, the overlapping dialogue and the script's mosaic of incident: characters such as Dennis Quaid's predatory producer weave in and out without ever becoming major players. Nichols also shapes neat visual jokes about the illusions of movie-making, often at our expense. This is not the film to strip Tinseltown to its bare, shrieking bones; but then Fisher only promised postcards from the edge.

The fewer films Sydney Pollack directs, the more ponderous they become. **Havana** (15, Empire) marks his first venture since *Out of Africa* in 1985; the running-time is two-and-a-half hours, the budget over $45 million (£23 million). The setting is Havana at the end of 1958, in the decadent twilight days of Batista's regime. Cadillacs purr as adventurers and pleasure-seekers throng the streets; the air tingles with Cuban drum beats, mambos, and vintage American ditties. Pollack's technical team may pat themselves over their clever artifice – the film was shot largely in the Dominican Republic – but where does that leave the audience? Stories and characters make a film, not production values.

Pollack's Havana contains no flesh-and-blood people: merely ghosts and hand-me-downs from Hollywood's past, especially *Casablanca*. Robert Redford, as an American gambler in search of big money, assumes the Bogart role – the maverick with a frigid heart, untouched by political tumult. Lena Olin, following her fellow Swede, Ingrid Bergman, provides the woman of mystery, penetrating the hero's defences and awakening his soul. Raul Julia completes the triangle as Olin's husband (Paul Henreid's part), an aristocratic revolutionary captured by government forces. The script, flatly worded, politically bland, was first concocted during the mid-Seventies; it has not matured with age.

Redford's features prove equally subject to Old Father Time, though his blue-eyed charm still twinkles through the crow's feet. Lena Olin's intensity, on the other hand, burns a hole in the screen. They make an odd couple, and, for all Pollack's track record as a director of actors, the sparks never fly between them. Even the most charismatic players need help from the script, but Redford's gambler remains a dull stereotype stalking a movie set, and when Olin prates of her adventurous past (would-be Hollywood actress, rocky marriage to a blacklist victim) we only hear the desperate sounds of scriptwriters scurrying to fill a void.

In **Rocky V** (PG, Odeons West End, Marble Arch), Sylvester Stallone returns from his last screen contest against the Soviet goliath Drago with blurred vision and shaking hands. "Simply stated, Mr Balboa," the doc says, "it means you've suffered some damage to the brain." Of course: nobody could have slogged through so many clichés uninjured. This fourth – and, in theory, last – sequel to the 1976 moneyspinner returns Stallone's hero to square one. Bankrupt after financial mismanagement, he becomes a trainer, but sees his protégé turned by others into a heartless boxing machine. Meanwhile Rocky Jnr (played by Stallone Jnr) drifts into punkdom through lack of fatherly guidance. Can Rocky reclaim his family, career and spirit while suffering from a perforated cephalic membrane? Who cares?

Stallone's underdog hero has long since passed beyond the human realm: he is now a cartoon, a piece of merchandise, mechanically gesticulating with hands, arms and legs like some clockwork Rocky doll. Tommy Morrison – a boxer himself, and great grand-nephew of John Wayne – makes a reasonable fist of the protégé's part, and director John Avildsen, returning to the fray 15 years after the first *Rocky*, propels the story by nervous editing. But the end result is unaltered: stupidity, bathos, wasted resources, wasted time.

Catchfire (15, Cannon Haymarket), made in 1988, is no gigantic improvement, yet at least it holds promises of quirky fun before daftness overwhelms. Jodie Foster, a maker of pretentious electronic signs, accidentally observes a mob killing; the vicious murderer is Joe Pesci, warming up for his *GoodFellas* role. Avoiding the police's protection, Foster strikes out on her own, though the mob's aloof hitman, Milo (Dennis Hopper, with dark glasses, perplexed brows and a "dis and dat" accent) finally corners her in New Mexico.

"You gotta face some hard realities here!" Milo barks. At which point, the film – far-fetched already – veers sharp right into Loonyland. Hitman and target take to the road, fall in love, rescue a kid goat from a mountain crevice, and escape from pursuers in a handy helicopter, before finally squaring up to the Mob's wrath.

Hopper provides the most bizarre characterisation as the tongue-tied Milo, tootling jazz riffs on his saxophone in between the gunfire. He also directs, although after a serious dispute at the post-production stage he withdrew his screen credit (fictitious Alan Smithee gets the honours instead). Possibly this farrago made better sense before the tampering started, though one doubts it.

Katsuhiro Otomo's **Akira** (12, ICA Cinema) is a futuristic Japanese comic-strip, thrust onto the screen in animated form. It was not made with *Bambi* fans in mind. The apocalyptic plot defies encapsulation; blood spurts from humans; brute force and laser beams continuously reduce Tokyo to rubble. The visual style remains boringly tethered to comic-strip habits, with rigidly drawn characters posed against static backgrounds. Acclaimed for its "phenomenal animation", the film – two hours long – merely pushes the art down a depressing cul-de-sac.

"Consider it a combination of *Frankenstein* and *The French Connection*," advises William Lustig, director of **Maniac Cop 2** (18, Cannon Panton Street). But these crass adventures of the New York cop drain the amalgam of all potency. Consider it trash.

Last week I raised an eyebrow at the PG rating carried by *The Rookie*. This was news to the British Board of Film Censors, which had granted the film a 15 certificate. Misled by wrong information, I apologise for misleading others.

JAZZ

Cross country on an ivory coast

Clive Davis anticipates a lively clash of generations and musical approaches from a multinational quartet of pianists

Howard Riley and Jason Rebello are both pianists, both British and embarking on an Arts Council tour together. That, however, is virtually all they have in common.

At 21, Rebello is fast becoming the most fashionable of new jazz talents. Armed with a BMG/Novus recording contract, he has already released his debut album. Last week he was making promotional appearances on television, and playing an Erroll Garner tune on Radio 4's *Kaleidoscope*.

Life is quieter for the 48-year-old Riley. He is one of the country's leading avant-garde jazz pianists; in other words, he gets most of his work abroad. As he wryly puts it: "Europe provides me with most of my living; Britain's a nice place to practise."

Representing the old and new faces of British jazz, the two men are taking to the road in "Piano 40/2", the latest tour sponsored by the Arts Council's Contemporary Music Network. In fact the CMN is offering no fewer than four solo pianists in one evening, the other two being Leipzig-born Joachim Kuhn and the American virtuoso Andrew Hill, making his belated British debut.

An entire evening of modern solo improvisation is an intimidating prospect. Is this the best way to attract the new audience for jazz which is supposed to be out there? Jazz Services staged a similar tour last year – with Django Bates, Alex Maguire and Akemi Kuniyoshi-Kuhn – which was a dour affair, lacking contrast. Why not lighten the atmosphere with a session of stride piano or boogie-woogie?

Not surprisingly, Howard Riley, who helped devise the first "Piano 40" tour in 1982, feels that this year's programme is sufficiently varied. "Personally, I would have liked to see a really good stride pianist, but the great ones are all dead. And I would have liked a good bebop pianist. But we can't cover every style. This is the *Contemporary Music Network*, after all. We should present the cutting edge. You can go to the pub to hear someone imitating Hank Jones or Tommy Flanagan. There are venues in London – I shan't name them – that specialise in that."

Riley has been making a tenuous living on the Free Jazz circuit since the Sixties. In his earlier, more conventional phase he once played in a big band at Butlin's holiday camp in Skegness. He recalls that the rock 'n' roll band which appeared on the same bill included a drummer by the name of Ringo Starr. But since then Riley has made a series of acclaimed albums.

For Jason Rebello, however, this is all a relatively new experience. Aware of the need for variety, he plans to smuggle a piece of "straight music", Debussy's *Reflets dans l'eau*, into his 30-minute set. The choice reflects his classical training at the Guildhall. Last year he let slip the blasphemous comment that jazz musicians tended to be lazy in comparison with classical players. He stands by those remarks. "They weren't meant to be derogatory. In classical music there's more of a tradition of practising hard and learning the repertoire. You can get away with a lot more as an average jazz pianist. But the great players in jazz have all done a lot of work."

Rebello was initially influenced by Keith Jarrett and Herbie Hancock; his album, *A Clearer View*, mixed slick improvisation with a fusion beat. A product of the pop age, he is being assiduously promoted. Fortunately, he seems unaffected by the hype. "I know where I am and what I need to do. It probably won't last anyway."

Unlike the media-friendly Rebello, Riley fears that commercialisation is getting out of hand. "Jazz is being promoted like pop music. It comes down to what suit or what sweater you wear. The music seems to be the last thing that's considered. A lot of it, in any case, is a re-tread of things that were being played in the Sixties, and played better then."

The last point is certainly true. An optimist would argue that the people who are attracted to concerts by the trendy new saxophonists will later go out and buy the music of the old masters. Riley, however, is not convinced. "Listening to a mediocre saxophone player who's being promoted by men in suits doesn't automatically lead you on to Sonny Rollins."

The Piano 40/2 tour begins tonight at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London (071-928 8800), and continues at Zeffirelli's, Ambleside (05394 33845) tomorrow and Caedmon Hall, Gateshead (091-477 3478) on Saturday.

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THEATRE

Betrayal
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Simultaneously null, blank yet on red alert: Martin Shaw as Robert in Pinter's Betrayal

THIS is the first important revival of a piece disgracefully undervalued when it appeared 13 years ago. Harold Pinter has admittedly written more forcefully; but none of his plays, not even *The Caretaker* or *Old Times*, has the emotional density of *Betrayal*. As David Leveaux's wary production confirms, there is hardly a line into which desire, pain, alarm, sorrow, rage or some blend of feelings has not been compressed, like volatile gas in a cylinder less stable than it looks.

What upset the reviewers in 1978 was subject-matter that seemed old-fashioned and a form that seemed annoyingly futuristic. The plot harked back to a theatrical period when dramatists were obsessed with love-triangles which, if not eternal, were certainly interminable. Yet since the story started after a man's affair with his best friend's wife had finished, ended with its beginning, and in between looped this way and that through time, *Betrayal* was also dismissed as gimmicky.

The answer is that Pinter's narrative method takes "what next?" out of the spectator's mind and replaces it with the rather deeper "how?" and "why?". Why did love pass? How did these people cope with the lies, the evasions, the sudden dangers, the panic, and the contradictory feelings behind their own deftly engineered masks? The play's subject is not sex, not even adultery, but the politics of betrayal and the damage it inflicts on all involved.

Even by Pinter's standards, those politics become pretty intricate. For instance, we learn early on that the old friend, Robert, has known for years of his wife Emma's affair. She knows he knows, but her lover Jerry does not know he knows or that she knows he knows. See what I mean? A lunch between the two men, Jerry fake-innocently asking after Emma, Robert seeing through his ruse yet humouring him, seethes with unexpressed guilt and anger. Almost all the play's encounters are similarly charged. The experience is rather like watching Kasparov circle Karpov's queen, but not knowing when, how or if he will pounce.

A play in which people often neither say what they mean, nor mean what they say, makes obvious demands on actors and audience. Leveaux's production manages simultaneously to be simple and tantalisingly inscrutable. That is to say, his cast proves expert at keeping us both abreast of what we need to know, the situation and plot, and involved enough to speculate about what we can never fully know, the motives behind the play's assorted treacheries. Why for instance does Robert not confront the cheat Jerry? Because he is an English sophisticate, has himself been having clandestine affairs, is frightened, does not care, or wishes to keep a friend he likes better than his wife?

In Pinter, as in life, the answers to such questions are hardly simple. But they allow Martin Shaw, a sardonic Robert, and Bill Nighy, a wistful Jerry, to exchange looks that go beyond the merely penetrating. They seem, almost, to be attempting to spy on each others's souls while remaining behind their private barricades. Somehow they contrive to be null, blank, yet also on red alert.

Cheryl Campbell, too, has mastered the art of doing little yet implying much. When Shaw's Robert discovers the affair, her Emma has only to become very still to suggest the dread within. Again, there is no mistaking the bleak grief behind the tight smiles when, at the play's start and the story's end, she realises she has lost both men. There, on her face, is what betrayal has meant. It is just one of many quietly eloquent moments in a riveting evening.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

MIME

Bozo's Dead
The Place

STRIKING visual values undermined by schematic portentousness so one could characterise the latest offering from the David Glass Ensemble – if one wanted to be schematic, or indeed portentous. Murderous fraternal rivalry between clowns is seen as the conflict between two forms of theatre: graceful, wordless spectacle as personified by Pierrot, and more earthy communication as typified by his brother Bozo, a coarse-looking fellow with the red cheeks of a circus buffoon.

If the plot fails to grip, it may be due to the lack of real characterisation. Glass himself is a dominant Pierrot, not merely the traditional lovelorn dreamer pining for the moon but a sinister slave-driver who offstage bullies his little troupe into submission. Bozo is more vaguely portrayed, neither slapstick nor warmly human. We take his subversive popularity with audiences on trust since his vaunted innovation, a spoken word, is confined to corny jokes.

Based loosely on an actual murder in France, the plot is used for a series of visual arabesques. Glass's own direction makes beautiful use of stage space and some of the simplest images are the most haunting: the chalk-faced Pierrot writhing guiltily in bed, for example, while the servile Lulu (the intelligently stylish Martha Stylianou) crouches beneath it.

As part of the London International Mime Festival the piece suitably plunges into the symbolic clash between spoken and visual theatre, complete with silent-film impressions, all flickering lighting and clanging keyboard accompaniment. Elsewhere John Eacott's minor-key music – repetitive, ominous, hypnotic – recalls another, more dreaded, Glass: Philip.

Perhaps swayed by traditional ideas of mime, the audience reacts to preciosity more warmly than to broad comedy (from a black servant with, I sincerely hope, artificially padded buttocks, and a Chinese comic who plays three brothers); or to such imaginative strokes as Pierrot wrestling with a cut-out word, "Why?", that snarls and twists like an angry dog. Ultimately a puzzling ambivalence leaves one undecided whether Glass is lamenting the old days of white-faced mopping and mowing out of *Les Enfants du Paradis*, or welcoming the age of standup comics. If it comes to a clash between Marcel Marceau and Ben Elton, there is no contest.

MARTIN HOYLE

CONCERT

CLS/Hickox
Queen Elizabeth Hall

FOR any orchestra, involvement in the community through educational projects reaps two benefits. It wins new audiences for what the orchestra already does, but, more importantly perhaps, it provides the opportunity to create new works.

For the past two years the City of London Sinfonia has been exploring the latter possibility by taking the composer Peter Wiegold and some of its members to various London schools and creating a co-operative work, a piece which Wiegold has called, after Dali's surreal depictions of "soft watches", *Persistance de la Mémoire*. Wiegold has carefully shaped the work, which contains ideas and themes invented by him, but there is also much material suggested by players at rehearsal or improvised within parameters of varying degrees of strictness.

As befits its title, the frame of the piece, which was unveiled to the public with a performance by the CLS's professionals on Tuesday, is a recurrent assembly of ticking sounds akin to the metronomes of Ligeti's *Clocks and Clouds*. Between these convenient points of orientation, however, the music, perhaps inevitably, tends to ramble in a loose sequence of clearly defined sections. Moreover, the improvised elements, though lyrical and imbued with an appealing meditative, raga-like flavour (the intention was to invoke the dark power of Spanish flamenco), seemed here to lack the edginess of true spontaneity.

Wiegold's obsession with a pop-like, syncopated idea based on three notes and harmonised in thirds, which he himself played on a synthesiser, does the piece few favours either, at least if it is simply taken as something to be listened to. But as a work in which the participation of amateurs is paramount it becomes an entirely different, and probably far more valuable, proposition.

For the remainder of the concert Richard Hickox conducted a sequence of more or less jazz-influenced pieces – Milhaud's tame *La Creation du monde*, Ibert's sparkling *Divertissement*, Copland's refined *Music for the Theater* and, most successfully of all, Weill's punchy *Kleine Dreigroschenmusik*. In chamber music, which all of this is, Hickox's lavish arm movement is often disconcerting, making the beat stodgy and giving little room for indications of expressive nuances. Consequently the CLS's playing, though reliable, here lacked the shapeliness which these works demanded, though occasionally a player such as the oboist Nicholas Daniel would seize the initiative and deliver an exquisite solo.

STEPHEN PETTITT

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

BEAUTIFUL DREAMERS (15) Docile historical heart-warmer about an asylum doctor spreading love and compassion with the help of Walt Whitman (Rip Torn). Director, John Kani Hanson
Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861).

THE FOOL (U) Suffocating static tale of financial mickery in Victorian England from the *Little Dorrit* team. With Derek Jacobi, director Christine Edzard
Curzon West End (071-439 4805)

♦ **MIRACLE MILE** (15). Two shy lovers find their romance interrupted by an impending nuclear attack. Bright, stylish drama from promising director Steve De Jarnatt. Anthony Edwards, Mare Winningham
Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Panton Street (071-930 0631) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148)

NARROW MARGIN (15) Cat-and-mouse games on a train with district attorney Gene Hackman, murder witness Anne Archer and the Mob. Classy remake of a Bud B-movie classic. Director Peter Hyams.
Prince Charles (071-437 8181).

♦ **THE ROOKIE** (PG) Slovenly potboiler from director-star Clint Eastwood: a rough LA detective newly partnered with a schmaltz rookie (Charlie Sheen)
Warner (071-439 0791).

THE UNBELIEVABLE TRUTH (15): Engaging deadpan comedy of small-town manners, from hyro director Hal Hartley. Robert Burke, Adrienne Shelly
Cannons, Piccadilly (071-437 3561) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Everyman (071-435 1525).

CURRENT

AIR AMERICA (15) Mel Gibson and Robert Downey Jr as maverick pilots mixed in an all-shoot of the Vietnam war. Loud, crass and demeaning
Odeons Kensington (071-602 6644/5) West End (071-930 5252/7615), Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

♦ **ARACHNOPHOBIA** (PG) Deadly spiders rampage through a cosy Californian community. Enjoyable thriller filled with humour and suspense tricks
Cannons, Baker Street (071-935 9772) Chelsea (071-352 5096) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) Odeons Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Leicester Square (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5505) Whiteleys (071 792 3303/3324).

♦ **BLUE STEEL** (18) Tough blood-spattered police thriller with a feminist slant from director Kathryn Bigelow
Odeon Mezzanine (071-930 6111)

THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS (18): Rupert Everett and Natasha Richardson mooching around Venice, falling prey to the warped Christopher Walken. Lugubrious psychological drama
Curzon Mayfair (071-499 3737).

CYRANO DE BERGERAC (U): Gerard Depardieu masterful as the lovelorn, long-nosed Cyrano, director Jean-Paul Rappeneau transforms Rostand's play into magnificent swashbuckling cinema.
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) Gate (071-727 4043) Lumiere (071-836 0691) Renoir (071-837 8402).

THE GARDEN (15). The Passion according to Derek Jarman – a powerful, elegiac tapestry of scenes and images on death, religion and gay sex
Camden Plaza (071 485 2443)

♦ **GOODFELLAS** (18) Martin Scorsese's gangster epic following a New York hoodlum's rise and fall. With Robert De Niro
Cannon Fulham Road (071-370 2636).

♦ **HENRY AND JUNE** (18): Anais Nin's passionate affair with Henry Miller, set in bohemian Paris, recreated with a grandiose flair by director Philip Kaufman.
Cannon Fulham Road (071-370 2636)
Empire (071-437 9999).

HIDDEN AGENDA (15). Ken Loach and Jim Allen's stab at a Stalker-like enquiry into the Ulster constabulary.
Cannons, Haymarket (071-839 1527) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Odeon Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520).

♦ **HOME ALONE** (PG) Plucky kid left alone at Christmas wards off bumbling burglars. Broad, machine-tooled American family fun from writer-producer John Hughes
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034)
Cannons, Chelsea (071 352 5096); Haymarket Cannons, Oxford Street (071 636 0310) Odeons, Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111); Warner (071-439 0791) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

METROPOLITAN (15). Whit Stillman's wickedly ironic comedy of manners set among New York's debutantes and preppies over one Christmas holiday. Witty dialogue, engaging young actors, elegant direction
Curzon Phoenix (071-240 9661) Metro (071-437 0757)

THE MUSIC TEACHER (U) Belgian tale of a retired opera singer (José van Dam) training two new apprentices for a competition. Prettily mounted, but weakly-formed. Director Gerard Corbiau.
Minema (071-235 4225)

THE NASTY GIRL (PG). Provocative, funny assault on Germany's Nazi past, with Lena Stolze as the girl uncovering her home town's shady history
Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Metro (071-437 0757) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366).

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE (15): Jeremy Irons as the inscrutable Claus von Bulow, tried for the attempted murder of his wife. Brilliant unravelling of a recent enigma; director Barbet Schroeder
Barbican (071-638 8891) Odeon Haymarket (071-839 7697).

ROGER CORMAN'S FRANKENSTEIN UNBOUND (18) Latter-day Frankenstein slips back in time to meet his original, ingenious material hampered by uncertain execution. John Hurt, Raul Julia
Cannon Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Warner (071-439 0791).

THE SHELTERING SKY (18): A chilling novel (by Paul Bowles) filmed with a warming visual sweep by Bernardo Bertolucci, with John Malkovich and Debra Winger
Barbican (071-638 8891) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Marble Arch (071 723 2011) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5505) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

♦ **WILD AT HEART** (18): David Lynch's rollicking tale of psychotic evil and sexual passion rampaging through America's heartland. Starring Nicolas Cage, Laura Dern.
Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London

■ House full, returns only
☑ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

Riverside Studios Crisp Road W6 (081-748 3354) Underground Hammersmith Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Running time 2hrs 30mins. Ends February 2.

☐ **INTO THE WOODS** Sondheim's witty mix of fairytales, grimmer than Grimm in the first half, turns gloshy thereafter
Phoenix, Charing Cross Road WC2 (071-240 9661) Underground Tottenham Court Road Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time 2hrs 50mins.

☐ **OUT OF ORDER** Donald Sinden puffs, Michael Williams panics in latest Ray Cooney farce: over-plotted, under-developed.
Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue WC2 (071-379 5399) Underground Holborn Mon-Fri, 8pm Sat 8.30pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat, 5.30pm. Running time 2hrs 15mins.

☑ **THE PITCHFORK DISNEY** Rupert Graves, Tilly Vosburgh and an excellent Dominic Keating in Philip Ridley's grimly fascinating comedy about sex-shattered young folk
Bush Shepherds Bush Green W12 (081-743 3388) Underground Shepherds Bush/Goldhawk Road Mon-Sat 8pm, Running time 2hrs 10mins. Final week.

☐ **PRIVATE LIVES** Keith Baxter, Joan Collins and Sara Crowe in Coward's comedy. Aldwych Aldwych WC2 (071-836 6404). Underground Covent Garden Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm. Running time 2hrs 15mins. Final week.

☐ **THE REHEARSAL** Ian McDiarmid's stylish production (costumes by Jasper Conran) of Anouilh's seduction play
Garrick, Charing Cross Road WC2 (071-379 6107) Underground Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Tues 3pm, Sat, 4pm. Running time 2hrs 30mins.

☑ **RICHARD III** Sir Ian McKellen's chilling dictator in Richard Eyre's 1930s-style production, back in the repertoire between legs of its world tour
National (Lyttelton) South Bank SE1 (071-928 2252) Underground/BR Waterloo. Tonight, Sat, 7pm.

☐ **THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW**: Raucous and wild boob and bizarre, sometimes deafening rock musical.
Piccadilly Denman Street W1 (071-867 1118) Underground Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 9pm, Fri, Sat, 7pm and 9.15pm. Running time 1hr 30mins.

☑ **THE SHAPE OF THE TABLE**: David Edgar's crisply argued almost elegiac view of a Communist state collapsing into democracy.
National (Cottesloe) (as left) Tonight, 7.30pm. Running time 2hrs 30mins.

■ **THREE SISTERS**: Three Redgraves in admirable if over-busy production. Vanessa and Lynn outstanding as the older girls
Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (071-734 1166) Underground Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time 3hrs.

☐ **TIME AND THE CONWAYS**: Joan Plowright and rest of crew Oliviers in Priestley's dullish play set in 1919 (twice) and 1938.
Old Vic Waterloo Road SE1 (071-928 7616) Underground Waterloo Mon-Fri, 7.30pm Sat, 7.45pm mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm Running time 2hrs 35mins. Ends February 16.

☐ **WHAT THE BUTLER SAW**: Incest, assault and disbelief jumbering preserved in the aspic of Joe Orton's wit. Not quite a top-class production but well worth seeing
Wyndham's Charing Cross Road WC2 (071-867 1116) Underground Leicester Square Mon-Thurs 8pm Fri, Sat, 6pm and 8.40pm. Running time 2hrs.

■ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS**: Alan Bennett's enchanting new version with jolly sets popping up on the revolve with Griff Rhys Jones, Richard Briers and all.
National (Olivier) (as left) Tonight-Sat 7.15pm, mat Sat, 2pm. Running time 2hrs 45mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ Absurd Person Singular, Whitehall (071-867 1119) . . . ☐ Aspects of Love, Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . . ☐ Blood Brothers, Albery (071-867 1115) . . . ☐ Buddy, Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ■ Cats, New London (071-405 0072) . . . ☐ Heaven Laugmer Vaudeville (071-836 9987) . . . ☐ Me and My Girl, Adelphi (071-836 7611) . . . ■ Les Miserables: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-836 8108) . . . ☐ The Mousetrap, St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ The Phantom of the Opera, Her Majesty's (071-839 2244) . . . ☐ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) . . . ☐ Run For Your Wife, Duchess (071-836 8243) . . . ☐ Shirley Valentine, Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . . ☐ A Slice of Saturday Night, Arts (071-836 2132) . . . ☑ Starlight Express, Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ☑ The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information on member theatres supplied by Society of West End Theatre

LSO CHILDHOOD FESTIVAL: Michael Tilson Thomas's latest memaic series with the London Symphony Orchestra is an exploration of music written by for or about children. The opening concert includes a premiere Colin Matthews's *Machines and Dreams* (with 16 children of LSO members joining in the concert) and plenty of entertaining Stravinsky miniatures.
Barbican Hall Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891), 7.45pm.

HALLE ORCHESTRA Conductor Horoyuki Iwaki leads the vivacious French pianist Cecile Ousset in Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 3 in D minor in a concert including Toru Takemitsu's *Dreamtime* and Sibelius's Symphony No 5 in E flat
Free Trade Hall, Manchester (061-834 1712), 7.30pm.

FROM GREECE TO HUNGARY: A variety of talks are taking place in London today. Professor G Kechrevodou of the University of Thessaloniki gives a lecture (in Greek) entitled "Dionysios Solomos and the Shade of Homer" (King's College) crime novelist Rum Kendall lectures on her own area of writing (Logan Hall) actor Brian Cox talks about his career (ICA) and Hungarian dissident novelist George Konrad talks about his work (ICA).

TODAY'S EVENTS

King's College (Room 8c) Strand WC2 (071-937 9714) 5.30pm Logan Hall University of London 20 Bedford Way WC1 (071-636 1500 ext 791) 6pm ICA The Mall SW1 (071-930 3647), Cox, 1pm, Konrad, 7.30pm.

I THOUGHT I HEARD A RUSTLING: Previews begin tonight for a new comedy by Alan Plater – he wrote the screenplay for Channel 4's drama series *A Very British Coup* – about the relationship between a senior librarian and a nonnem ex-miner, starring Annette Crosbie, Paul Copley; directed by Philip Hedley
Theatre Royal Stratford East, London E15 (081-534 0310), 8pm.

ART 91 In its third year, Art 91 is now recognised as one of London's main contemporary art fairs. Over 100 living artists are represented, from the known to the unknown and the ordinary to the extreme.
Business Design Centre 52 Upper Street, London N1 (071-359 3535), until Sunday.

TWO NEW RETROSPECTIVES AT THE BARBICAN: A re-assessment of the work of Stanley Spencer is offered by the Barbican in a new display of 65 works spanning the latter part of his career, including examples on loan from the United States, Australia and Switzerland which have rarely been seen. The upper gallery exhibits the work of surrealist photographer Man Ray and explores his remarkable ability to combine the commercial requirements of fashion photography with the avant-garde.
Barbican Art Gallery Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891), 10am-7.45pm

JASON REBELLO, JOACHIM KUHN, HOWARD RILEY AND ANDREW HILL: An evening of solo recitals from four jazz pianists in the latest presentation by the Contemporary Music Network. Not for the faint-hearted although the clash of styles may be sufficient reward in itself. The tour moves to Zetterelli's Amphitheatre, tomorrow, then Casomon Hall Gateshead on Saturday (see feature page 21)
Queen Elizabeth Hall South Bank Centre, London (071-928 8800), 7.45pm.

THE ROBERT CRAY BAND: Unquestionably the premier bluesman of the Nineties. Cray has brought the genre bang up to date with his spruce soul voice and svelte guitar tone.
Hammersmith Odeon Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (081-748 4081), 7.30pm, until Sunday.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

VELLICATE
(c) To twitch, nom vellication, from the Latin *vellicare* to pluck: "The same effect is produced whenever the teeth are vellicated by smooth substances, as a piece of silk or velvet."

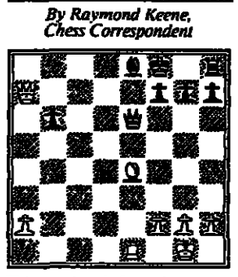
FAMULUS
(a) A private secretary or factotum, an attendant, especially upon a magician or a scholar, from the Latin *famulus* a servant: "The Magician's Famulus got hold of the forbidden book, and summoned a goblin."

FUNDILEXIC
(c) A person whose surname begins with any of the letters N-Z, from the Latin *fundus* bottom + the Greek *lexis* a word: "Not only am I a statistic; I am a ranked statistic. The world is divided into sunmilexics, whose names begin with A-M, and fundilexics, whose names begin with N-Z."

DADDOCK
(c) The heart of a rotten tree, dialect, rotten or decayed wood, etym. obsc, but cf. *dodder*: "The great red daddocks lay in the pastures where they had lain year after year, crumbling away."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Bisguier – Evans, USA 1959. White to play and win. Solution in tomorrow's *Times*.

Solution to yesterday's position: 1 Bg7+! Rxg7 2 Rc8+ Rg8 3 Qg4! and Black cannot cope with the dual threats of 4 Qg7 mate and 4 Qxg8 mate.

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 5 071 836 3161 cc 071 240 5258 or 1st call 071 240 7200 (24hr) 7 days 071 379 4444 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Tonight 7.30 LOVE FOR 3 ORANGES (Last perf) Tomorrow 7.30 MADAM BUTTERFLY

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066/1911 Standby info 836 6903 5 CC bkg mins avail on the day THE ROYAL OPERA Tonight 6.00 Un Ballo in Maschera Sargent Lieutenant Sat 6.00 Cavalleria

THEATRES

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JOAN COLLINS
KEITH BARKER in
NOEL COWARD'S
PRIVATE LIVES
Evenings 8.0 Sat 5.0 & 8.50
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Eves 7.45 Sat 4 & 8 Mat Tue 5

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL BO 071 930 8800 cc 240 7200/379 4444 (bkg fee) 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123
JOHN GORDON-SINCLAIR & JEAN CARTER are
"GASPING"
by BEN ELTON
Directed by Bob Spiers
"Breathlessly funny" T on Sun
"Wheeze!" FT
MON - THURS EVES 8pm FRI EVE 8.30 pm SAT 5pm & 8.30pm Ben Elton's Gasping Opens (Book shows 16th Feb 1991)

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL B.O. 071 930 8800 NO FEE
SILLY COW
by BEN ELTON
STARRING NORM PEIRCE
NOW THUR EVEN 8.00pm FRI and SAT EVEN 8.45pm MATS FRI and SAT 5.00pm

HER MAJESTY'S Enquiries 071 734 1173/71 Info 2240 Fax CC 379 4444/240 7200 Group Sales 930 6123 Lyttelton Box Office 928 2252
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
DAVE WILLETTS'S
JILL WASHINGTON — MICHAEL CORMICK
Ines Barton plays Christine on certain performances
Directed by HAROLD PRINCE
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3
SOLD OUT UNTIL SEPT 28 1991
40-60 RETURNS SOLD EACH PERF: QUEUE DAILY

LONDON PALLADIUM BO & CC 071 437 7373 071 437 2066 CC 24hrs 071 497 9977 (no bkg fee) 071 793 1000 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) Groups 071 240 7941
RUSS ABBOT'S
PALLADIUM MAD HOUSE
The New All Singing! Spectacular with Sets & Effects
Lisa Stewart and Company
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30
FOR A LIMITED SEASON ONLY

LONDON PALLADIUM B/O & CC 437 7373 The Opera North/RSC Production of
SHOW BOAT
Returns for a limited season from March 19

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 (C) no bkg fee 071 836 3464) THE GOOD OLD DAYS OF MUSIC HALL Starring Dame Hilda Bracket 7.30pm - 2 WEEKS ONLY!! STUDIO 081 741 8701 MELISSA & ABELARD by Hugh Carr 8pm ENDS SAT!
5 FEB - 2 MAR ONLY
ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE CO
THE MERCHANT OF VENICE
By Shakespeare
VOLPONE by Jonson

LYRIC, Shaftesbury Ave 071 437 3686 cc 24hrs (no bkg fee) 379 4444
"SONG & DANCE DYNAMITE"
Daily Mail
FIVE GUYS
NAMED MOE
"A JOYOUS WALLOPING HIT" Guardian
"The total five-star stage jumpin'" Time Out
(Mon-Fri 8.00 Sat cc 6.00 & 8.45)

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252 CC: Orbis 071 620 0741 24 hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 OLIVIER
Tod'y Tomor 7.15 THE WORK OF THE WILLIAMS, Cromwell adapted by Bennett (SOLD OUT RETURNS ONLY)
LYTTELTON
Tod'y 7.00 RICHARD III Shake spearo Tomor 7.00 KING LEAR Shakespeare
COTTESLOE
Tod'y 7.30 THE SHAPE OF THE TABLE Edgar Tomor 7.30 ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST Fo

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 Bo 071 836 8108 CC 24 hrs 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 071 240 7200 Grps 930 6123 Fax 071 497 0779 Sales Fax from 6 to 1 month ahead Free mum & baby matinees (Dec bkg 930 6123)
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER / T S ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45
LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION. PLEASE BE PROMPT.
Bars open at 6.45
NOW BOOKING THRU OCT
SEATS NOW AVAIL

OLD VIC Box Office & CC 071 928 7616 CC (bkg fee) 240 7200/379 4444/793 1000 Grps 930 6123 Mon-Fri 7.30, Wed mat 2.30, Sat 4.00 & 7.45
30th ANNIVERSARY
"A great actress at the very peak of her powers" Sun Exp: in
TIME & THE CONWAYS
Directed by Richard Eyre
"DESERVES TO BE A SELL-OUT" Daily Express

PALACE THEATRE 071 434 0909 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 497 9977 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 Grouse 446 1671
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
THE MUSICAL SENSATION
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
Latecomers not admitted until the interval
Now Booking Thru SEPT 91
APPLY TO BOX OFFICE DAILY FOR RETURNS

PHOENIX BO 071 867 1044 cc (no bkg fee) 867 1111/379 4444 cc (bkg fee) 071 793 1000/071 497 9977 Grps 240 7941
BEST MUSICAL
1990 EVENING STD AWARDS
JULIA MCKENZIE
SHEILA STAINTON
PATSY ROWLANDS
CLIVE CARTER
& NICHOLAS PARSONS in
The Sondheim/Lapine Musical
INTO THE WOODS
"A SMASH HIT-BOOK FOR TICKETS" People
Eves 7.30 Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30

PICCADILLY 071 867 1118 cc (no bkg fee) 867 1111/071 793 1000 071 379 4444 (24hrs)/(bkg fee: 071 497 9977 (24hrs)
RICHARD O'BRIEN'S
CLASSIC MUSICAL
THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW
Directed by Robin Lefevre
"MAD BAD FUN" O Mirror
Mon-Thus 8 Fri & Sat 7 & 9.15
Perf 1hr 30

PLAYHOUSE BO & cc 071 839 4401 cc Pay Cab 24hr 071 379 6433 (no bkg fee)
PETER HALL COMPANY
WORLD PR season
Opens 20/21 Feb Opens 26 Feb at 7 Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 Dates & times as above to be announced
RE GROUP PLAYHOUSE

PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 First Call 24 hr 836 3464 Ticketmaster 379 4444 cc Prompt 071 793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 240 7941/930 6123 Mats Sat 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
CHILDREN OF EDEN
"EXPLODES ONTO THE STAGE... A SHOT OF COLOUR, ENERGY AND PURE JOY" Today
By John Caird Stephen Schwartz

PRINCE OF WALES BO 071 839 5972 CC First Call 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 (bkg fee) TM 24hr 379 6433 (bkg fee) 793 1000 Grps 930 6123
ASPECTS OF LOVE
"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S BEST" D Tel
Lyrics by DON BLACK & CHARLES HART
Directed by TREVOR NUNN
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.0
Queue daily for returns. Strictly no admittance for latecomers
NOW BOOKING TO OCTOBER '91
1,000 SEATS AVAIL FOR WED SAT ON THE DAY AT THE B. OFFICE

QUEENS Shaftesbury Ave 071 734 1166 cc 071 793 1000 071 497 9977 071 379 4444 (bkg fee)
VANESSA LYNN REDGRAVE REDGRAVE
JEMMA REDGRAVE and STUART WILSON
THREE SISTERS
"Riotous, Rough, Unknowing Stuff" Obs "Breathtaking" D.Mail
Directed by ROBERT STURUA
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed

هكذا من الأصل

BBC 1

6.00 BBC Breakfast News including overnight news and analysis of the latest situation in the Gulf
9.15 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on the crime of shoplifting
10.00 War in the Gulf. More news and reaction from this country and abroad
12.15 Scene Today presented by Judi Spiers and Alan Titchmarsh 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather 1.35 Neighbours. (Ceefax)
2.00 News followed by Going for Gold. Henry Kelly hosts the general knowledge quiz with contestants from all over Europe
2.25 War in the Gulf. Includes Westminster Live with prime minister's questions at 3.00 approx
5.05 Film '91 with Barry Norman (r)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. Weather
6.45 Regional news and weather
7.05 Top of the Pops introduced by Simon Mayo
7.30 EastEnders. More dramas concerning the denizens of Albert Square. (Ceefax)
8.00 Tomorrow's World. Ever wondered what happened to the idea of the individual jet pack or the personal helicopter? With the help of some archive material, the programme finds out if they are any nearer to becoming a reality. Plus a report from Japan by Peter Macann about the development of a construction technique originally pioneered by Leonardo da Vinci 600 years ago
8.30 The Brittas Empire. Promising comedy with Chris Barrie as Gordon Brittas, impenous manager of Whitbury Leisure Centre. This week an underwater wedding hits a snag and a drunk in a wheelchair gatecrashes the antenatal class. (Ceefax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather



Nameless stock: David Jason and Ronnie Barker (10.00pm)

10.00 Open All Hours. Ronnie Barker and David Jason star in Roy Clarke's broad comedy series about the humble but grasping grocer with a stutter and his nephew employee. Tonight, the grocer picks up a bargain when he comes across a load of fire-damaged stock. Tins of fruit, beans and steak and kidney pie are in abundance, only without their labels (r)
10.30 Question Time chaired by Peter Sissons. Among the panel responding to questions from the audience are Chris Patten, the environment secretary, Denis Healey, the former Labour foreign secretary, and Henry Catto the US ambassador
11.30 European Figure Skating Championships. Barry Davies introduces coverage of the ladies' free programme from Sofia in Bulgaria. The Russians will be as hungry as ever for gold, particularly since their presence in the ladies' event has not been as strong as in other disciplines recently. British champion Joanne Conway will be hoping to put on a good show. Plus news of the latest positions after the compulsory dances. Commentary comes from Alan Weeks and Christopher Dean.
12.10am Gulf News
12.20 Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley. Highlights of tonight's FA cup third round, second replay between Nottingham Forest and Crystal Palace at the City Ground, Nottingham
1.05 News headlines and weather

BBC 2

8.00 News 8.15 Westminster. A round-up of business from the Lords and the Commons
9.00 Daytime on Two: Advice for teachers on assessment 9.30 Maths 9.45 French magazine for beginners 10.00 A miscellany for the very young 10.15 Working as a firefighter and a trainee hotel manager 10.35 A schoolgirl finds herself with an increased sense of isolation from her fellow pupils 11.00 Life under the Pharaohs 11.20 Young technologists tackle smaller scale versions of the problems that faced Brunel 11.40 Maths 12.05 The work of interior designers 12.25 Pollution caused by a steel works in the Siberian town of Novokuznetsk 12.50 Language in the national curriculum 1.20 Playdays 1.40 A musical fantasy journey
2.00 News and weather followed by You and Me (r)
2.15 Antiques Roadshow from Stowmarket, Suffolk (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 The Natural World: Search for the Yeti (r)
3.50 Dooby's Duck Truck. Cartoon series 3.55 Gordon the Gopher 4.05 Jackanory Silver Stories. *The Man with the Silver Tongue*, written and read by Rory McGrath 4.20 Fantastic Max (r) 4.30 Billy Webb's Amazing Story. Episode four of the six-part children's drama
4.55 Newsround 5.05 Blue Peter. (Ceefax)
5.30 Clean State. BBC education correspondent Mike Baker turns his attentions towards the difficulty facing parents of children with special needs in finding suitable schools
6.00 Film: Carry On Cowboy (1966). Predictably bawdy affair which sees the usual *Carry On* gang in Stodge City, a western town taken over by outlaws. Directed by Gerald Thomas
7.25 Animation Now: The Big Snit. Canadian cartoon
7.35 First Sight: Bottom of the Class. Antonia Higgs looks at the appalling lack of provision for nursery education for three- to five-year-olds in Britain. Northern Ireland: Birds of a Feather; England: East – Called to Account; Midlands: The Midlands Report; Leeds, Newcastle and Manchester: Close-Up North; Southampton: Southern Eye; Plymouth: Western Approach; Bristol: Current Account



Illustrating George Rouncewell in his shooting gallery (8.05pm)

8.05 Bleak House.
● CHOICE: If the re-run of Arthur Hopcraft's dramatisation of Dickens's novel does nothing else, it serves as a reminder that *this* is how to film Dickens, not the way Christine Edzard went about things in *Little Dorrit*, obsessively fussing about sets and costumes and leaving the poor actors to fend for themselves. Consequently, *both they and the film succumbed through under-nourishment.* In contrast, *Bleak House* has a vitality that is wholly Dickensian, and the atmosphere of insidious corruption generated by the Jarndyce and Jarndyce farce in the High Court of Chancery is as powerful on film as it was on the original page. As a metaphor for the fettered soul, director Ross Devenish's Chancery puts Edzard's Marshalsea to shame. Tonight's episode (the fourth) introduces Dave King's George Rouncewell and his shooting gallery. Both of them are bang on target (r). (Ceefax)
9.00 The Mary Whitehouse Experience. The cult radio show which has made the move to television
9.30 40 Minutes: Around Midnight. A look at the people of Leeds who work while the rest of us are tucked up soundly in bed. (Ceefax)
10.10 Small Objects of Desire: The Passport.
● CHOICE: Hugh Thomson's potted history of the passport, like *previous films in this infuriatingly watchable series, leans heavily* on technical wizardry and on editing which teeters on the edge of frenzy. But it is probably the only way to make films about tampons and fish fingers without making the average viewer want to switch channels. Tradition-loving Britons, cherishing memories of navy blue days, may well object to the burgundy-hue and flimsy feel of the new Europassport. But it is infinitely preferable to the notched sticks that travelling Australian aborigines carry with them to establish their tribal identity. Apparently, the time is still far off when passport-holders will be able to say, with Oscar Wilde, that we have nothing to declare but our genius.(Ceefax)
10.30 Newsnight with Francine Stock
11.30 The Late Show. With Peter Palumbo, Lord St John of Fawsley, Robert Hewison and Janet Abrams 12.10am Weather
12.15 Behind the Headlines presented by Jeffrey Archer and Paul Boateng. *Ends at 12.50*

ITV

6.00 TV-am. With reports from Louise Bevan in Jerusalem; Barbara McCann, Chris Stocking and Geoff Meade in Dhahran; Nick Farrow and Adrian Brown in Amman; Mike Rigby in Riyadh; and Anthony Dworkin in Washington 9.00 After Nine presented by Kathy Tayler
9.25 ITN Gulf News Report 9.55 Thames News and weather
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Mike Scott chairs a discussion on a topical subject
10.40 This Morning. Family magazine show hosted by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. The couple are joined by family doctor Chris Steele and beauty expert Liz Earle. Plus Anna Soubry's wry view of the soaps. Other features include *Star Collections*, a look at antique and art collections and *Woolcraft* with knitting, embroidery and rug-making. Includes national and international news headlines at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by weather
12.05 The Riddlers. Entertainment for the very young 12.25 Thames News and weather
12.30 News and weather
1.20 Home and Away. Australian soap about a couple and their foster children 1.50 A Country Practice. Drama serial set in a rural community health centre
2.20 TV Weekly. Anne Diamond takes a look behind the scenes of this week's television
2.50 Give Us a Clue. Michael Parkinson, Liza Goddard and Lionel Blair plus guests Cheryl Baker, Danny Baker, Libby Morris, Rose-Marie, Keith Barron and Geoffrey Durham play the celebrity charades game – often as good fun to watch as to play.
3.15 News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 The Young Doctors. Australian drama set in large city hospital
3.55 Owl TV. This week's edition of the wildlife series for the young visits Rottnest Island, off the Western Australian coast, home of 10,000 squirrel-like quokkas. Plus a profile of the harvest mouse 4.20 Warner Brothers' Cartoon 4.40 Spatz. Children's series set in a café
5.00 Home and Away (r)
5.30 News (Oracle) and weather
6.30 Thames News and weather
7.00 Emmerdale. Soap set in a Yorkshire farming community Kathy returns to Beckindale and demands that Frank leaves the running of the haulage company to Christopher. Jack receives a frosty welcome from Sarah, who continues to be suspicious about his visit to Menen in Italy
7.30 Jimmy's. Real life dramas from the staff and patients at St James's Hospital in Leeds
8.00 ITN Gulf News Report
8.10 The Bill: In Chambers. Well-above-average drama series about a London police squad. Greig is confident that, once he gets a legal representative, he is assured of a favourable result in the case he is working on. But once in court the case falls apart and Greig's months of preparation are wasted. Stars Andrew Mackintosh. (Oracle)
8.40 This Week. An examination of the nature of Saddam Hussein with details from one of his former bodyguards. Reports from Dover, Delaware, the town that traditionally receives the US war dead; and from a city in Israel that lives under the constant threat of chemical attack from Iraq



Sticky fingers: George Cole and Dennis Waterman (9.10pm)

9.10 Minder: Fatal Impression. With the lowlife businessman Arthur Daley and his simple companion Terry McCann. Arthur lends £100 to Larchtap Riley, who turns out to be dead. Arthur has a sticky time trying to retrieve his cash. Starring the old team of Dennis Waterman and George Cole (r). (Oracle)
10.10 News at Ten. (Oracle) Weather 10.50 Thames News and weather
11.00 The City Programme examines the Lords' ruling on the Hammersmith and Fulham "swaps" case; and the financial effects of the war in the Gulf
11.30 01. Includes reviews of the films *Postcards From the Edge*, starring Meryl Streep and Shirley MacLaine, and Robert Redford's *Havana*
12.00 ITN Gulf News Report. News bulletins and analysis throughout the night. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily. Includes the overnight news of the situation in the Gulf
9.25 Schools
12.00 Channel 4 News headlines
12.05 The Parliament Programme presented by Sue Cameron
12.30 Business Daily
1.00 Sesame Street
2.00 That's Entertaining. Richard Cawley prepares a family lunch for *the waistline-conscious (r). (Teletext)*
2.30 The Thatcher Audit. Last of a series of documentaries about the state of the British economy under the Conservatives and Mrs Thatcher (r)
3.30 Land of Hope. Episode three of the ten-part Australian serial chronicling the lives of one Irish-Australian working-class family from the late 1800s through to the 1970s (r)
4.30 Countdown
5.00 The Adventures of TinTin. Episode four of *The Adventures of Redkham the Red*
5.05 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah's guests are all people who claim to have faked their own deaths in order to assume a new identity and lifestyle.
6.00 Kate & Allie. Fairly amusing American comedy about two single mothers who share a Greenwich Village flat. Starring Susan Saint James and Jane Curtin (r)
6.30 Desmond's. More razor-sharp wit, dry remarks, hot air and cutting humour set in a black barber's shop in southeast London (r)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext)
7.50 Comment followed by Weather
8.00 Class by Class: The Doctor's Tale.
● CHOICE: The argument Ray Gosling puts forward in the fourth of his investigations into changing attitudes in the British class system since 1945, is that although the money motive has broken up the system as it used to operate, it's a game in which there are still both winners and losers, and in the Hylton family once rooted in the privileged soil of the medical profession, Gosling is lucky enough to have a cross-sectional symbol of what he strenuously insists are the twilight years of the upper middle-class heritage. Gosling and most of the Hyltons reach more or less the same pessimistic conclusion – *that the present government seems* determined to treat the professions in a truly democratic way – i.e. showing them the same respect as everybody else. A strong case, but too one-sided. (Teletext)
8.30 Film: Mama's Going To Buy You a Mockingbird (1988). A compelling drama set in the late Fifties which tells the story of a family gradually coming to terms with the death of the father (Geoff Bowes) from cancer. The story is seen through the eyes of the 12-year-old son (Louis Tripp) and the emotions felt by the family are juxtaposed with the boy's growing adolescent romance with a girl from school (Rose Barker-Anderson). *With Linda Griffiths Director* Sandy Wilson's second feature following the much acclaimed *My American Cousin*



Unorthodox freedom fighters: Mexican wrestlers (10.25pm)

10.25 True Stories: Lucha Libre.
● CHOICE. Franco Rosso's documentary about social reformers in present-day Mexico makes its points with flying fists, vicious sideways kicks, and strong arms that grip heads in vices that threaten to snap them off. These unorthodox righters of wrongs all *wear masks and/or capes. They are professional all-in wrestlers.* All-out, too, since the fighting continues when the bodies have gone through the ropes. There is the priest (Father Storm) who fights to raise cash for his children's refuge. And, most spectacularly, there is Superbarrio, the Mexican Superman and collective citizen who, in the council chamber, speaks up for the under-privileged, and in the ring, knocks hell out of Tony, "the home-wrecker and ecological destroyer". National idolatry reaches new highs and lows of muscularity in Rosso's hammer-blow film
11.40 A Week in Politics – Late Sitting, part one. What are the political and diplomatic implications of the current conflict. With MPs Cecil Parkinson and Sir David Steel and Professor Adam Roberts of Balliol College, Oxford
12.00 Channel 4 News – Midnight Special
12.30am A Week in Politics – Late Sitting, part two
1.00 Channel 4 News. Ends at 2.00

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 6.30pm-7.00 Anglia News 10.40 Relationships 11.10 Widesangle 11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H

BORDER
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Lookaround Thursday 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 10.40 Hooperman 11.10 Prisoner: Cell Block H

CENTRAL
As London except: 6.30pm-7.00 Central News 10.40 Central Lobby 11.10 1st Night 11.40 Hooperman

CHANNEL
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors 3.25-3.55 Sons and Daughters 6.30-7.00 Channel Report 10.40 Motorywise 11.10 Prisoner: Cell Block H

GRAMPIAN
As London except: 1.50-2.20 Sons and Daughters 6.00-7.00 North Tonight 11.00 Crossfire 11.30-12.00 Crann Tara

GRANADA
As London except: 6.30pm-7.00 Granada Tonight 10.40 Celebration 11.10 Families

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors 3.25-3.55 Sons and Daughters 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 HTV News 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 10.40 The West This Week 11.25 HTV Weekend Outlook

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales at Six 7.30-8.00 Wales & Westminster 10.40 Wales This Week 11.10-11.40 Coming of Age

SCOTTISH
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Wild Life on the Edge 3.25-3.55 Sons and Daughters 6.30-7.00 Scotland Today 7.30-8.00 Scottish Questions 11.00 Elkon 11.30-12.00 Taxi

TSW
As London except: 3.25pm-3.55 Home and Away 5.00-5.30 Take the High Road 6.30-7.00 TSW Today 11.10 Politics South West 11.40 Married...With Children

TVS
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors 6.30-7.00 Coast to Coast 10.40 Moneywise 11.10 Prisoner: Cell Block H

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Santa Barbara 6.30-7.00 Northern Life 10.40 Married With Children 11.10 Prisoner: Cell Block H

ULSTER
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Sons and Daughters 3.25-3.55 Glenroe 6.30-7.00 Six Tonight 7.30-8.00 Counterpoint 10.45 Monday Talks 11.15 Sid Tips 11.45 Pop Profile

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 6.30-7.00 Calendar 10.50 Calendar Commentary 11.10 Time Please

S4C
Starts: 6.00am The Art of Landscape 6.30 C4 Daily 9.25 Ysgolion 12.00 Stoesel 12.10 Pobol Y Cwm 12.30 Newyddion 12.40 Slot Meirnin 1.00 Countdown 1.30 Business Daily 2.00 Third Wave 2.45 Film: The Fast Lady 4.30 Slot 23 5.15 Tonight with Jonathan Ross 5.45 Heno 6.00 Newyddion 6.10 Heno 6.40 Pobol Y Cwm 7.00 Shooteu 7.30 Bwrw Mlaen 8.00 The Cosby Show 8.30 Newyddion 8.55 Fideo 9.35 Orchestral 10.05 Eurocops 11.05 Opinions 11.40 A Week in Politics – Late Sitting 1.10 Diwedd

RTE 1
Starts: 12.30pm Look Here 1.00 News 1.45 Shakespeare in Perspective 2.00 Carson's Law 3.00 Live at Three 4.00 News followed by Emmerdale 4.30 Knot's Landing 5.20 Red and Blue 5.30 A Country Practice 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 Six-One 6.45 Garda Patrol 7.00 Top of the Pops 7.30 Tex Avery 7.40 Football 8.05 Fr. Dowling 9.00 News 9.30 Today Tonight 10.10 Challenging Times! 10.40 Bookmes 11.10 The Hitch-Hiker 11.35 News 11.45 Close

NETWORK 2
Starts: 2.30pm Bosco 3.00 The Den 6.05 Jo-Maxx 6.30 Home and Away 7.00 Naacnt 7.08 Cursa 7.30 Head of the Class 8.00 News followed by Freeze Frame 8.30 Marketplace 9.00 The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd 9.30 News followed by Falcon Crest 10.25 Nighthawks 11.10 News 11.25 Close



Michael Parkinson (ITV, 2.50pm)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
● Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites.
6.00am The DJ Kat Show 8.40 Mrs Pepperpot 9.10 Jackpot 9.30 Here's Lucy 10.00 It's Your Round 10.30 The Young Doctors 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful 11.30 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sale of the Century 1.00 True Confessions 1.30 Another World 2.20 Loving 2.45 Wire of the Week 3.15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show 5.00 Lois in Space 6.00 Family Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7.00 Love at First Sight 7.30 In Living Color 8.00 The Simpsons 8.30 Wings 9.00 Weeguy 10.00 Love at First Sight 10.30 Night Court 11.00 Outer Limits 12.00 Cricket: The Ashes Tour Live. First day of the fourth Test from Adelaide

SKY NEWS
● Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites.
● The following schedule may be subject to alteration.
News on the hour.
6.00am International Business Report 5.30 European Business Today 6.00 International Business Report 8.30 Newsline 10.30 Beyond 2000 11.00 International Business Report 11.30 Rowing Report 1.30pm NBC Today 2.30 Parliament Live 3.15 Prime Minister's Question Time 3.30 Parliament Live 4.00 International Business Report 4.30 Beyond 2000 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 Newsline 7.30 International Business Report 8.30 Now Sir Robin 10.30 Newsline 11.30 NBC Nightly News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 NBC Nightly News 2.30 European Business Today 3.30 CBS News 4.30 Beyond 2000

SKY MOVIES
● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase
10.00 Triple Cross (1966): Three private eyes become involved in each other's cases. Starring Ted Wass, Gary Swanson and Markie Post
12.00 Rio Grande (1950): The turbulent relationship between a colonel (John Wayne) and his son (Claude Jarman Jr)
2.00pm Dangerous Curves (1988): Two American teenagers are entrusted with the delivery of a brand-new Porsche
4.00 Inhumanoids (1986): Cartoon
6.00 Three Men and a Baby (1987): Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenburg are left holding the baby
7.40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 Warlock (1989): A warlock (Julian Sands) escapes his earthly bonds and arrives in the house of a Beverly Hills waitress (Lori Singer)
9.40 Projector
10.00 Out of the Body (1988): Experimenting on the paranormal a university researcher has visions of murders as they are being committed. Starring Tessa Humphries and Mark Hembrow
11.30 Death before Dishonour (1987): A sergeant in the marines (Fred Dryer) confronts a group of Middle East terrorists who have stormed an American embassy. Co-stars Brian Keith and Joanne Pacula
1.15am The Silent Partner (1978): A battle of wits ensues when a bank teller steals part of a bank robber's takings before a planned raid. Starring Elliot Gould and Christopher Plummer
4.00 Recruits (1986): A police chief assembles the worst police force of all time. Starring Alan Deveau. Ends at 5.30

EUROSPORT
● Via the Astra satellite.
5.00am International Business Report 5.30 Newsline 6.00 As Sky One 7.30 Eurobics 8.00 Snooker: World Masters 11.00 Tennis: New South Wales Open 1.00pm Ford Ski Report 2.00 Snooker 6.00 Mobil One Motor Sport News 6.30 Eurosport News 7.00 Snooker 10.00 Trans World Sport 11.00 *Figure Skating* 12.30am Eurosport News

SCREENSPORT
● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Powersports International 8.00 Magazine Automobile 8.30 American Professional Boxing 10.00 Stop – Conquer the Arctic 11.00 World Snooker Classics: Norwich Union Grand Prix 1.00pm Sydney-Hobart Ocean Yacht Race 2.00 LPGA Tour Jamaica Classic 3.00 Ice Hockey NHL '91 5.00 Stop – USWA Wrestling: The Main Event 6.00 Wide World of Sport 7.00 US College Football 9.00 Top Team Spanish Football: Barcelona v Real Madrid. Atletico Madrid v Espanol 11.00 Show Jumping Mechelen

MTV
● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

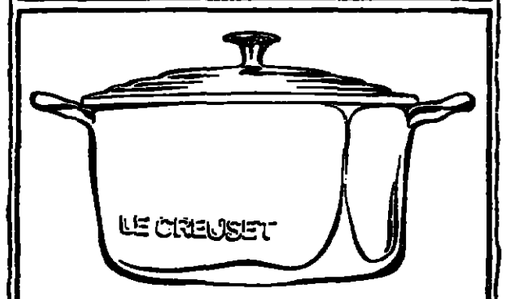
LIFESTYLE
● Via the Astra satellite.
10.00am Great American Gameshows 11.15 Coffee Break 11.20 Everyday Workout 11.50 *Slim Cooking* 12.15pm Sally Jessy Raphael 1.05 Style File 1.10 Search for Tomorrow 1.35 The Edge of Night 2.00 Divorce Court 2.25 Lifestyle Plus 2.35 Monty Nash 3.05 Remington Steele 3.55 Tea Break 4.05 WKRP in Cincinnati 4.35 The Great American Gameshows 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 JSTV 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 12.00 Satellite Jukebox

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
● Via the Marco Polo satellite.
12.35pm The Movie Show
1.05 But Not for Me (1959): A theatrical producer (Clark Gable) is pursued by his amorous secretary (Carroll Baker)
3.00 Anatomy of a Murder (1959). When a soldier kills a man whom he accused of raping his wife, lawyer James Stewart comes to his defence
6.30 The Care Bears Adventures in Wonderland (1987): Cartoon
8.00 Critical Condition (1987): A con artist (Richard Pryor) takes charge of a New York hospital during a blackout
10.00 L.A. Bounty (1989): When drug baron Wings Hauser kidnaps a political candidate, bounty hunter Sybil Danning springs into violent action
11.35 The Big Man (1990): Liam Neeson becomes involved in Glasgow's violent underworld when he agrees to fight in an illegal bare-fist boxing match
1.40am Go Tell the Spartans (1978): An American platoon of raw recruits is ambushed by the Viet Cong. Ends at 3.40

THE SPORTS CHANNEL
● Via the Marco Polo satellite.
1.30pm Racing Today 2.00 Australian Open Tennis 4.00 Fishing the West 4.30 Gerald Williams Talks To . . . 5.00 WWF Wrestling Challenge 6.00 This Is the Sports Channel 7.00 World Masters Snooker 8.00 Australian Open Tennis 10.00 World Masters Snooker 11.30 Racing Today 12.00 Australian Open Tennis

THE POWER STATION
● Via the Marco Polo satellite.
7.00am Twenty-one hours of rock and pop

ELIZABETH DAVID COOKSHOPS
AUTHENTIC FRENCH KITCHENWARE AT DECIDEDLY LOW PRICES.
SALE NOW ON.



The Le Creuset Round Casserole is now only £24.45 a saving of over £16 and a saucepan is now only £21.95 a saving of over £9. Just two of the reductions in our Winter Sale.

ELIZABETH DAVID COOKSHOPS, 3 The Market, Covent Garden, WC2 (071) 836 9167. Mon-Sat from 10am. Sun from 12 noon. At KEDDIES, The High Street, Southend-on-Sea (0702) 600461. At NASON'S, 46/47 High Street, Canterbury (0227) 456755. Extn. 329. KEDDIES and NASON'S Mon-Sat 9am to 5.30pm.

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather; News Headlines
7.00 Morning Concert: Holst (Uranus, The Planets); Farnaby, arr Howarth (Mal Sms, His Dream, His Humour); Chopin (Variations on a Theme by Rossini); Arnold (Set 2 of English Dances)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Handel (Concerto a due cori No 3 in F); Schubert (Trio in B flat, D 28); C.P.E. Bach (Symphony in E minor, Wq 178/H 653); Gershwin (Rhapsody No 2)
8.30 News
8.35 Composers of the Week: Charpentier (Médée, tragédie en musique in a prologue and five acts – excerpts: Les Arts Florissants under William Christie)
9.35 Associates of the Schola Cantorum. D'Indy (Symphonic Variations, Istar: Lorie PO); Roussel (Jazz dans la nuit, Deux melodies, Op 20: Sarah Walker, mezzo, Roger Vignoles, piano); Turina (La Oracion del Torero: Susse Romande Orchestra); De Severac (En Vacances: Aldo Ciccolini, piano); Palestrina (Mass, Assumpta est Maria: Choir of the Chappelle Royale, Paris). Guilmant (Sonata No 1 in D minor: Simon Preston, organ); Albeniz, orch Arbos (Evocation; El Puerto; El Albaicin; Triana, Iberia: Paris Orchestra); Roussel (Serenade for flute, harp and string trio: Melos Ensemble); D'Indy (The Death of Wallenstein: Lorie PO)
12.20pm BBC Concert Orchestra under James Lockhart performs Rimsky-Korsakov (Overture, May Night); Frank Bridge (There is a Willow Grows Aslant a Brook), Grieg (Suite, Sigurd Jorsalfar)
1.00 News
1.05 Bristol Lunchtime Concert: Trio of London performs Mozart (Piano Trio in G, K 496); Dvořák (Piano Trio No 4, Op 90, Dumky)
2.00 Inside the Hollywood Bowl
● CHOICE: Baby raccoons running among the string players during Beethoven's Ninth Symphony have been known to divert an audience at the Hollywood Bowl, the natural amphitheatre near Los Angeles which is also the world's largest concert venue. But this and other distractions only add to the charm of the place, according to contributors to this repeated potted history. Statistics can be numbing – and there are plenty here – but it is encouraging to know that many people still get their first experience of symphonic music by paying a couple of dollars to visit the Bowl. Raccoons get in free (r)
2.45 London Handel Festival: Roy Goodman, solo violin, performs Concerto grosso in D minor, Op 3 No 5; Cantata, Donna che in ciel for soprano and strings; Sonata a cinque); Soloists, London Handel Choir and Orchestra under Darlow perform The Choice of Hercules, incl 3.35 Interval Reading (r)
4.35 Clare Macfarlane and Julius Drake: The violinist and the pianist perform Delius (Sonata No 3); Bartók (Romanian Dances); Elgar (Sonata in E minor)
5.30 Mainly for Pleasure
7.00 News 7.05 Third Ear
7.30 Les Petits Ages: Kenneth Gilbert, harpsichord, plays F. Couperin (Movements from the Seventh Ordre)
7.45 LSO: Live from the Barbican Hall, London. Michael Tilson Thomas, piano, conducts Leopold Mozart (Toy Symphony); Stravinsky (Souvenir de mon enfance; Tilimbom; The Owl and the Pussy-Cat). 8.15 Childhood in the Middle Ages. Jeffrey Richards, professor of cultural history at Lancaster university reflects on the medieval attitude to children. 8.35 Prokofiev (Peter and the Wolf); Matthews (Machines and Dreams – world premiere); Britten (Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra)
9.50 Music in Our Time: At the 1990 Camden Jazz Festival, John Surman, saxophones and bass clarinet, and the American drummer and pianist Jack DeJohnette, joined forces with the Belanescu String Quartet. They play their own compositions and those of Alexander Belanescu
11.00 The Honky Tonk Man (r)
11.30 News
11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week: Delibes, Massenet (r)
1.00-2.25 Night School (FM only) (except in Scotland)

RADIO 4

● FM/Most scheduled programmes will be *suspended to give* continuous news of the war in the Gulf.
MW and LW: The following schedule is subject to alteration.

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 *Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day* from Ainsworth Friary, Northumberland 6.30 Today, with Brian Redhead and Peter Hobday, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55, 8.57 Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Face the Facts, with John Waite (r)
9.30 The Power of Patronage: Church and State. Robin Oakley, political editor of *The Times*, investigates patronage in major areas of public life. In the fourth of a five-part series, he examines the role of the state in the Church of England
10.00 News; The Natural History Programme: Jessica Holm presents the first of two programmes on New Zealand wildlife
10.45 An Act of Worship (s)
11.00 News; Citizens
11.25 On the Ropes: John Humphrys talks to four people *who have weathered storms in* their careers. 4: Sophie Mirman of Sock Shop
11.50 First Person: Series of talks by first-time broadcasters. Sheila Sullivan on being a "little old lady"
12.00 News; You and Yours, with John Howard
12.25pm Dear Diary (s) (r) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Woman's Hour: Includes interviews with Lindy Chamberlain, the mother in Australia's dingo baby case; with Yvonne Saron, a public service headhunter; and with Lyn Fletcher, the first associate leader of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
3.00-4.00 Prime Minister's Questions (FM only)
3.00 News; The Committee for *Public Safety (LW only):* In Christopher Denys's play, seven local worthies collaborate to stop the end of the world as they knew it (s)
4.00 News
4.05 Bookshelf: Nigel Forde ventures into the world of science fantasy in the *company of authors Douglas* Adams and Terry Pratchett
4.30 Kaleidoscope: Includes a review of Carrie Fisher's new book, *Surrender the Pink*; a review of the ENO's productions of *Duke Bluebeard's Castle* and *Oedipus Rex*; and a feature on the Positive Theatre Company, whose members have all contracted the HIV virus (s)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News; Financial Report
6.30 And Now, In Colour . . . The comedy team with songs and *sketches (s) (r)*
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Whispers on the Wing: The working day of Stephen Place, writer-in-residence at Lewes prison in Sussex (s) (r)
8.00 The State in Question: The Nation Divided. John Lloyd explores the new ideas that *will determine the politics of* the next decade. In the final programme, he examines the conflicting interests of British sovereignty and traditional values with the state's economic interests and European idealism
8.45 Does He Take Sugar? *Magazine for disabled* listeners
9.15 Kaleidoscope (broadcast at 4.30pm) (s)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight *9.59 Weather*
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Age of Iron, by J.M. Coetzee (9 of 10) (s)
11.00 Fear on 4: The Edge, by John Pardo. Edward de Souza introduces the film of eight spine-chilling stories (s)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Gary King 6.30 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Bruno Brookes 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 5.30 News '91 6.00 Jaiku Brambles 7.00 Top of the Pops (with BBC1) 7.30 Mark Goodier's Evening Session 9.00 Classic Documentary. A Tribute to a King. Richard Skinner presents a celebration of the life and music of Otis Redding (r) 10.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00-2.00am Bob Harris

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 4.00am Steve Madden 5.30 Ken Bruce 7.30 Derek Jameson 9.30 Debbie Thrower 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.00 Gloria Hunniford 4.00 Desmond Carrington 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Pull the Other One 7.30 Wally Whyton 9.00 Paul Jones 9.45 Tom Mennard's Local Tales (r) 10.00 Chris Stuart 12.05am Jazz Parade with Digby Fairweather 12.35-4.00 Bill Rennells with Night Ride

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service: Newsdesk 8.30 Morning Edition 9.00 Schools 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 for toddlers 10.45 Hampshire Tales: The county in words and music 11.00 Sport 11.25 The Health Show. Irritable bowel syndrome. Tel 0345 909 693, incl 12.00 News. Sport 12.30pm The Eater's Digest. Some Night Naggin 1.00 Sports Desk 1.05 As Radio 3 2.00 Sport 2.05 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (broadcast at 10.25am) 2.30 World Service: International Call 3.00 Sport 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Assignment 4.00 Sport 4.05 Tucker – The Man and the Car of Tomorrow: The story of Preston Tucker, who invented the prototype of the family car 4.35 Five Aside 7.20 The Song of Pentecost (Part 9) 7.35 The Railway Children (final part) 8.05 In the News 8.30 Space Five 9.00 Billy Liar (final part) 9.30 Eastern Beat, incl 10.00, 11.00 Sport 11.08 World Service: Global Concerns 11.23 Good Books 11.38 The World Today 11.53 Words of Faith 11.58-12.05am Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am Morgenmagazin 5.35 News in German; Headlines in English and French 5.45 Gulf News Special 6.00 World News 6.15 Gulf News Special 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7.00 World News 7.15 Special Gulf Programme 7.30 Second City First 8.00 world News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Good Books 8.30 John Peel 9.00 World News 9.15 Short Story 9.30 Financial News 9.39 Sports Roundup 9.45 Network UK 10.00 News Summary 10.15 Instruments of the Orchestra 10.30 Development '91 11.00 World News 11.15 The Farming World 11.30 Mid Magazine 11.59 Travel News 12.00 World News 12 15pm Multitrack 2 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1 15 Gulf News Special 2.00 World News 2 15 Gulf News Special 2.30 Off the Shelf. The Great Gatsby 2.45 Recording of the Week 3.00 News 3.15 Music for a While with Richard Baker 4.00 World News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 World News 5.09 Commentary 5 15 Jazz Now And Then 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 News Summary in English 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7.54 News in German 8.00 world News 8.09 Global Concerns 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Meridian 9.00 News Summary 9.30 The Modern Sherlock Holmes 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 News 10.15 Gulf News Special 11.00 World News 11.15 Gulf News Special 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am The Story of Western Music 1.00 News Summary 1.15 Outlook 1.45 Global Concerns 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 City Plays: *Bujak and the Strong Force 3.00 World News 3.15 Seven Seas

Network SouthEast may keep subsidy

By MICHAEL DYNES
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to abolish the annual subsidy for Network SouthEast, British Rail's financially troubled passenger and commuter network, may have to be abandoned, Roger Freeman, the public transport minister said yesterday.

Mr Freeman told a transport conference at Aston university in Birmingham: "It may be that subsidy for Network SouthEast will have to continue for much longer than expected." His statement is the first time the government has publicly acknowledged that the abolition of subsidy targets set in December 1989 by Cecil Parkinson, the former transport secretary, was no longer realistic and is likely to be abandoned.

Network SouthEast needs about £143 million a year to cover operating costs, although government subsidies and grants are only about £90 million a year. The deficit is made up by receipts from property sales and lettings, both of which have been hit hard by the recent decline in the property market.

The recession, declining demand for off-peak travel, and the estimated £1 billion cost of the safety recommendations produced by the report into the Clapham rail disaster, are understood to have forced a reappraisal of government policy on rail subsidies.

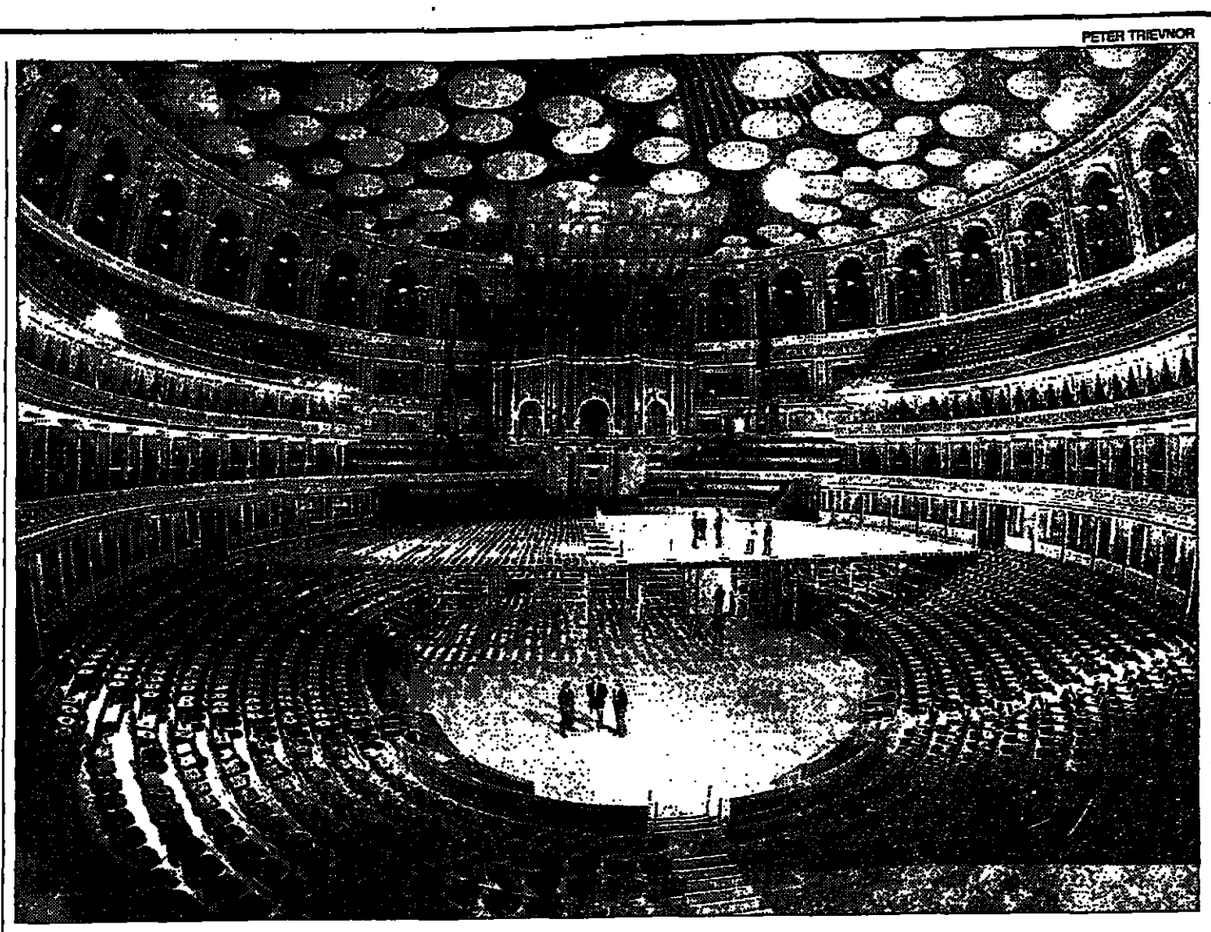
A formal decision to abandon the subsidy targets would be tantamount to an admission that the government's commitment to privatise the rail network is unlikely to materialise this century. It could also herald a ministerial re-think on the role of British Rail, which may include a greater emphasis on the social and environmental benefits of rail travel.

If the subsidy targets are abandoned, British Rail, which is expected to publish its new ten-year investment strategy in the spring, would be able to salvage many of the long-overdue investment programmes which have been deferred because of the squeeze on its finances. As a result, programmes such as the introduction of the new Networker trains on the Kent coast lines could be back on schedule.

John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, yesterday wrote to Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, calling on the government to "re-consider the financial targets imposed on British Rail," in view of the network's present financial difficulties.

Commenting on Mr Freeman's statement, Mr Prescott said: "It's about time that the government changed its priorities, and put the needs of the travelling public above all else."

PETER TRIEVNOR



Artistic foundation: the Albert Hall being fitted with a new floor covering the promenade and stalls which will allow the hall to be used for conferences and exhibitions. The 16,000 square feet floor will be ready for use from 1992. It has an aluminium sub-structure with a marine ply top. The original Albert Hall "great floor", built in 1904, was used for trade fairs and the Chelsea Arts Ball

Saddam troops 'are beginning to defect'

Continued from page 1

they had a bold warrior like Montgomery. Maybe Hammerbeck is not a Montgomery."

The differences between the two reflected a widening gap between British and American assessment of the progress of the war and the prospects for any ground assault. British commanders have become wary of the gung-ho approach of the leaders of some American units and still have doubts about the capacity of their men to stand up in combat. There have also been differences about the way that orders are passed down in the two armies.

Colonel Hackworth's observations of the first week of war have forced him to scale down his initial estimate of 50,000 potential allied battle casualties which, when he made it public, helped build the United States anti-war movement. "It was based on the assumption that air power would fail as it had before in world war two, in Korea, in Libya, in Panama," he explained. "In fact, air power worked, leaving Saddam now like a radio station without a generator."

He admitted surprise that the high technology weaponry he had so often criticised functioned so well. "It is going to be the first time in history, other than the six-day war, when air power has defeated a ground force," he claimed confidently.

He bitterly attacked the media, particularly American television, for falsely exaggerating the importance of the Scud missile campaign against Saudi Arabia and Israel which was militarily insignificant.

"In ten days, I would say we will see the Iraqi army in Kuwait either skedaddle, running out that way," he emphasised pointing at his map, "or when we cut them off at the knees, they will defect. They are already defecting across the border, right, left and centre. On Tuesday I happened to be close to the border and I saw 23 soldiers defect in one little zone alone."

He added, in words which will be welcome to British soldiers now digging into front line positions: "There is a myth about the Iraqi army, that they are 9 ft tall, that they eat raw meat, and that they as mean as snakes. But in fact, they are a third rate military force now up against a professional army including Americans, Britons and French."

About Face, the story of how Col Hackworth turned against his beloved US Army over the conduct of the Vietnam war, is published by Sidgwick and Jackson at £16:95.

Scramble for notes

Continued from page 1

a maximum of 1,000 roubles in old notes for new.

They can exchange the money only at the accounts office in their workplace, which means there will be more queueing than working in Soviet factories and offices for the rest of the week. The cashiers will do well, too. Repeat transactions will be available on the quiet, at a price.

Pensioners can exchange only the value of their pension, up to 200 roubles, and only at the post office or bank where they collect their pensions. All this, a worldly-wise Russian explained, is to stop families redistributing their notes, but it leaves pensioners with little recourse. Yesterday they could not even "buy" a place in a queue. Places could not be had for love or money — old or new. It was four hours' wait in the snow, or nothing.

To redeem more than 200 roubles, pensioners must surrender their cash, obtain a receipt, write an appeal to their local council with evidence that their money has been legally earned — and, within 10 days, "their case will be decided".

Few of the banks had received instructions. They had no new notes to replace the old, and soon ran out of "tenners". Travellers were destitute. A young man just arrived in Moscow on an overnight train from Tashkent with two 100 rouble notes was effectively without a kopeck. The post office demanded he change his money at his workplace — several hundred miles away.

Political sketch

Political reality on a flight of fancy

SOMETHING important is clearly happening in the world but let us be frank: it is not happening at Westminster.

Politicians and generals are influencing this great event but let us again be honest: they are not doing so from the House of Commons chamber. To put it bluntly, the focus of national interest has moved away from our parliament, and nothing MPs or lobby correspondents can do will bring it back.

Unfortunately this does not stop them trying. Yesterday the Commons indulged itself in a session of "questions" to a foreign office minister about the Iraqi bombing of Tel Aviv which killed one elderly Israeli civilian and caused two fatal heart attacks. But we knew that already. MPs had nothing further to ask and the minister had nothing further to say. The session was completely fatuous.

Sometimes I like to transport myself mentally up towards the carved oak of the chamber's roof, out through the stone-mullioned gothic windows — and away to the scene itself: the main event: the action, on which MPs are pronouncing. If those there could hear all this (I ask myself) — if, for instance, a messenger could bring them continual updates from the verbatim *Hansard* report — how would it look, to them?

Picture a (fictional) Mr Zvi Kramer crawling from the rubble of a wrecked appartment block in Tel Aviv. Picking himself up and wondering whether his children are alive, he is handed *Hansard*.

"*Oy gevalt!*" he exclaims. "Sir David Steel says we live in 'day to day, hour to hour, fear of horrific attack'!"

"Don't worry my dear," says his wife. Henda, nursing a broken arm, "We have the 'respect and admiration' of the junior British foreign office minister, Mr Douglas Hogg. And Mr David Tredinnick (C, Bosworth) says we have gained the respect of the world."

"How old is Mr Tredinnick, I wonder?" asks Zvi, reaching for his copy of the *Times Guide to the House of Commons*, which has mercifully escaped the blast ... "Ah — he was born in 1950, and educated at Eton. Apparently he is the manager of 'a family property company,' and has been to a business school in Cape Town." Reassured, Zvi reads on.

"*Kop in drad!* Mrs Gwynneth Dunwoody (Lab, Crewe & Nantwich) has paid tribute to our government ..."

He is interrupted by Henda: "And the Tory MP for Harrogate, Robert Banks, says that the Iraqi action is 'most baseless and deplorable' ..."

"'Cynical and indiscriminate' was how Mr John Home Robertson (Lab, E Lothian) described it ..."

"'Wicked and desperate' — and that comes from Labour's front bench, Gerald Kaufman, no less."

"'A disgraceful attack, courageously borne' is the view of Sir Anthony Grant (C, SW Cambridgeshire). And David Sumburgh (C, Bury S) salutes our brave fortitude."

Henda looks at the rubble that was her home. Zvi comforts her: "No wonder it's in ruins," he explains, "Mr Hogg says that it was 'terror bombing of civilian targets.' He said so three times. And he says that John Major is 'appalled'."

A moment's anger overwhelms them both. "Restrain yourself, my dear," says Zvi to his wife. "But Mr Hogg said that we were 'entitled to retaliate'."

"Ah yes: but he added that it was not 'in our interests'. And Mrs Dunwoody is urging restraint."

Zvi and Henda stare at each other. Somehow, the same expression escapes both their lips simultaneously: "*Schlmiels!*"

Or, as Walthamstow's Hugo Summerson put it, in English, as he announced his Water Requirements (Planning) Bill thousands of miles away: "*Water surrounds us all, completely.* Mr Speaker. It may surprise hon members to learn that we are 62 per cent water. Perhaps that is why we feel a great affinity with water."

MATTHEW PARRIS

Young faces censure over BAe sweeteners

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

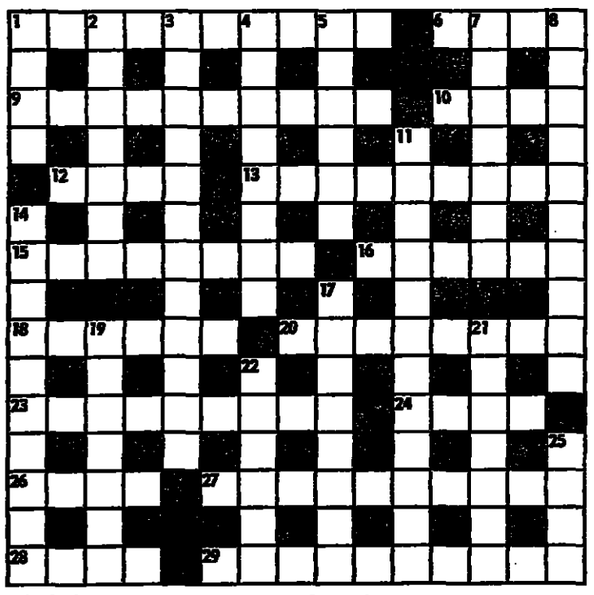
LORD Young of Graffham's handling of the sale of Rover to British Aerospace will be criticised by a report from a two-year parliamentary enquiry to be published next month.

The Tory majority on the Commons trade and industry committee refused to accuse the former trade and industry secretary of misleading Parliament and the European Commission over the final terms of the privatisation. The report, however, will condemn the failure to make a full and frank disclosure of the £44 million hidden "sweeteners" to BAe during the closing negotiations to save the sale.

The report agreed unanimously yesterday in a private session after months of dispute between the cross-party group of MPs calls for a clearer system for setting out any concessions and subsidies in future privatisation. The recommendation comes after accusations by Labour MPs that Lord Young did not make clear to Parliament and the European Commission that BAe was granted a 20-month postponement in handing over the £150 million sale price for the luxury car company or the deal reached to buy out existing Rover shareholders. Sir Leon Brittan, Britain's senior EC commissioner, has already demanded a repayment by BAe of the £44 million of last-minute concessions.

Industry department officials will also be censured for failing to give the committee all the documents about the negotiations immediately. The papers on the talks between Lord Young and Roland Smith, the BAe chairman, were handed over under pressure from the committee.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,511



ACROSS

1 Musician's disastrous tour with scholar of sullen disposition (10).
6 Produce a marked effect as an archer (4).
9 Joint spell of duty by hands in rotation here (5-5).
10 Group of thugs go for the Scots (4).
12 Obscure eastern coin (4).
13 Sage in a novel — a religious doctrinaire (9).
15 Monetary gain for Worcestershire opener taking a turn at batting (8).
16 The way soldiers let it stand around (6).
18 Officer's quarters housing retired soldiers (6).
20 The monkey's brother (8).
23 Economic problem no one retires without, even in Northern Ireland (9).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,510

W	E	R	E	W	O	L	F		P	E	R	S	O	N
	L		X		U		L		L			H		I
C	A	R	P	E	T		Y	E	A	R	L	I	N	G
	T		E		F		O		N			N		H
M	I	S	C	H	I	E	F		T	A	R	G	E	T
	O		T		T		F		A			L		C
S	N	E	A	K		S	T	A	I	R	W	E	L	L
N			N		B		H		N		O			U
O	F	F	T	H	E	P	E	G		C	R	U	M	B
W		I			G		H		C		K		A	
W	A	G	N	E	R		A	L	L	R	O	U	N	D
H		H			U		N		O		F		A	
I	N	T	E	N	D	E	D		C	H	A	R	G	E
T		E			G		L		H		R		E	
E	N	R	A	G	E		E	V	E	N	T	I	D	E

ACROSS

24 Notice a narrow promontory (4).
26 Drawback for the French department (4).
27 Extremely brave Italians represented as inordinately greedy (10).
28 An American jerk (4).
29 He may be in the doghouse, being long in debt, perhaps (10).

DOWN

1 Fashion gripping Welsh borough (4).
2 One of those known by experts, harbouring sanctimonious feeling (7).
3 Resort once used by soldiers heading for a breakdown? (9-3).
4 Removal of purulent matter by the senescent Doctor A? (8).
5 When riding, found the ventilation shaft (6).
7 Prevaricating woman holds up permit (7).
8 Rocker's crazy angle? Not so (5-5).
11 County dweller, and not little Tom, gets rainstorm (12).
14 Drunken tinker is outside, shedding tears indiscriminately (10).
17 Piece of canvas in South Africa put in the post (8).
19 Colouring when second offence is detailed (7).
21 Boy has one objection to fish (7).
22 Intended taking note out of the funds (6).
25 Vessel is empty, by the sound of it (4).

Concise crossword page 17

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

VELLICATE
a. Made of vellum or parchment
b. To express a wish
c. To twitch

FAMULUS
a. A magician's secretary
b. Very hungry
c. A kind of gladiator

FUNDILEXIC
a. Good at spelling
b. Concerned with farming
c. With a name beginning N-Z

DADDOCK
a. A toad
b. An amorous old man
c. The heart of a rotten tree

Answers on page 22

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0636 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roundworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy in places with the best of any brightness in eastern areas. Some rain or drizzle in northern and western areas. England and Wales will be cloudy with sunny spells developing in many places. Overnight fog patches in the North will persist for much of the day. Temperatures around average. Outlook: overnight frost and fog patches, with showers spreading southwards across Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair, c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	12	54	c	Madrid	7	45	f
Alicatri	13	55	s	Majorca	11	52	c
Alex'dria	17	63	f	Malaga	10	50	r
Algiers	15	59	f	Malta	12	54	r
Amst'dm	1	34	c	Melb'rne	23	73	c
Athens	9	48	f	Mexico C*	21	70	s
Barbados*	28	82	f	Miami*	19	66	s
Barcelna	11	52	s	Milan	3	37	s
Belgrade	-3	27	c	Montreal*	-21	-6	f
Berlin	1	34	c	Moscow	-2	28	c
Bermuda*	20	68	c	Munich	-1	30	c
Biarritz	5	41	c	Nairobi	27	81	f
Borde'x	9	48	s	Naples	10	50	s
Brussels	-1	30	fg	N Delhi	18	64	s
Budapst	-1	30	c	N York*	-9	16	s
Cairo	17	63	f	Nice	12	54	s
Cape Tn	21	70*	s	Oslo	-1	30	s
C'blanca	15	59	c	Paris	3	37	c
Chicago*	-11	12	s	Peking	-2	28	sn
Ch'church	27	81	f	Perth	29	84	s
Cologne	2	36	c	Prague	1	34	c
C'phgn	4	39	c	Reykjvik	5	41	f
Corfu	11	52	s	Rhodes	12	54	s
Dublin	6	43	c	Rio de J	29	84	s
Dubrovnik	11	52	s	Rome	10	50	s
Faro	11	52	s	Salzburg	1	34	s
Florence	9	48	s	S F'risco*	10	50	s
Frankfurt	3	37	c	Santiago*	15	59	c
Funchal	19	66	s	S Paulo*	30	86	c
Geneva	2	36	c	Seoul	7	45	f
Gibraltar	9	48	r	Sing'por	31	88	f
Helsinki	5	41	s	St'kholm	2	36	c
Hong K	17	63	c	Strasb'rg	2	36	c
Innsbruck	0	32	s	Sydney	24	75	c
Istanbul	3	37	f	Tangier	12	54	f
Jo'burg*	28	82	f	Tenerife	19	66	c
Karachi	21	70	c	Tokyo	6	43	s
L Palmas	19	66	c	Toronto*	-9	16	f
La Tquet	4	39	c	Tunis	12	54	c
Lisbon	9	48	s	Valencia	9	48	c
Locarno	3	37	s	Venice	5	41	s
L Angels*	15	59	s	Vienna	0	32	sn
Luxembg	1	34	c	Warsaw	1	34	f
Luxor	20	68	s	Wash'ton*	4	25	f
				Wel'nton	24	75	f
				Zurich	-1	30	c

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 6C (43F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 59 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar. mean sea level, 6 pm, 1038.3 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Tenby, Dyfed, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Shawbury, Shropshire, -4C (25F); highest rainfall: Jersey, 0.06 in; highest sunshine: Isles of Scilly, 8 hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 2C (36F): min 6 pm to 6 am, -4C (25F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, nil.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F), min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.01 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, nil.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.6	-	7	45	bright
Anglesey	5.8	-	8	46	sunny
Belfast	-	.03	7	45	fog
Birmingham	5.3	-	5	41	bright
Blackpool	7.0	.01	6	43	sunny
Bognor Regis	0.6	-	5	41	cloudy
Bournemouth	1.7	-	5	41	bright
Bristol	3.6	-	5	41	sunny
Buxton	6.9	-	4	39	sunny
Cardiff	5.1	-	5	41	sunny
Cromer	0.1	-	5	41	cloudy
Douglas	1.4	-	6	43	bright
Edinburgh	0.2	-	7	45	dull
Exmouth	3.8	-	5	41	sunny
Falmouth	6.4	-	6	43	sunny
Folkestone	1.0	-	6	43	cloudy
Guernsey	-	.01	7	45	drizzle
Hastings	0.1	-	6	43	cloudy
Hunstanton	2.1	-	6	43	sunny
Ilfracombe	-	-	9	48	sunny
Jersey	2.0	.06	8	46	rain
Leeds	6.8	-	8	46	sunny
Lerwick	0.4	.02	7	45	drizzle
Lowestoft	-	-	5	41	cloudy
Manchester	6.2	-	7	45	sunny
Minehead	2.8	-	5	41	bright
Morecambe	6.7	-	4	39	sunny
Newcastle	-	-	6	43	sunny
Nottingham	6.4	-	5	41	sunny
Penzance	7.7	-	7	45	sunny
Plymouth	5.4	-	6	43	sunny
Poole	1.7	-	8	46	cloudy
Scilly Isles	8.0	-	11	52	sunny
Shanklin	0.7	-	5	41	cloudy
Southsea	2.4	-	7	45	cloudy
St. Ives	7.2	-	6	43	sunny
Stornoway	1.1	.01	8	46	drizzle
Swanage	2.0	-	6	43	bright
Teignmouth	4.0	-	5	41	cloudy
Tenby	7.4	-	11	52	sunny
Torquay	3.1	-	6	43	sunny
Weymouth	1.6	-	5	41	cloudy

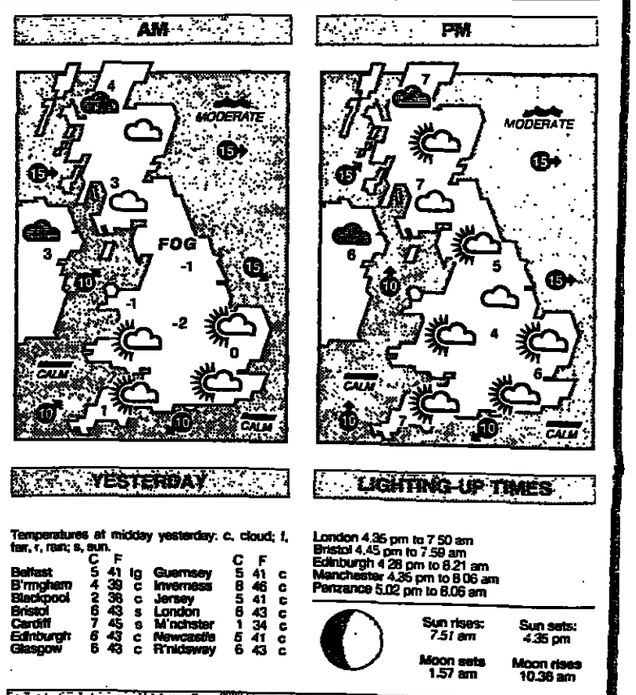
Tuesday's figures are latest available

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.



YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	5	41	fg	Guernsey	5	41	c
B'rmgham	4	39	c	Inverness	8	46	c
Blackpool	2	36	c	Jersey	5	41	c
Bristol	6	43	s	London	6	43	c
Cardiff	7	45	s	M'nchster	1	34	c
Edinburgh	6	43	c	Newcastle	5	41	c
Glasgow	6	43	c	R'nldsway	6	43	c

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 4.35 pm to 7.50 am
Bristol 4.45 pm to 7.59 am
Edinburgh 4.28 pm to 8.21 am
Manchester 4.35 pm to 8.06 am
Penzance 5.02 pm to 8.05 am

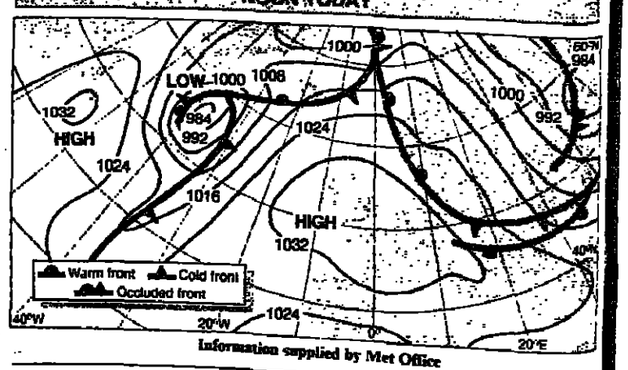
Sun rises: 7.51 am
Sun sets: 4.35 pm
Moon sets 1.57 am
Moon rises 10.36 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.38	6.3	7.23	6.0	Liverpool	4.20	7.9	4.51	8.1
Aberdeen	7.02	3.5	7.13	3.7	Lowestoft	2.18	2.3	3.41	2.0
Avonmouth			12.25	10.8	Margate	4.51	4.3	5.49	4.1
Belfast	4.23	3.1	4.47	3.2	Milford Haven	11.39	5.8		
Cardiff			12.10	10.1	Newquay	10.38	5.9	11.11	5.6
Devonport	10.50	4.6	11.34	4.5	Oban	11.23	3.2	11.27	3.0
Dover	4.03	6.0	4.36	5.6	Penzance	10.05	4.6	10.52	4.5
Falmouth	10.20	4.4	11.04	4.3	Portland	11.51	1.6		
Glasgow	6.05	4.3	6.19	4.3	Portsmouth	4.45	4.1	5.16	3.9
Harwich	4.49	3.6	5.36	3.4	Shoreham	4.10	5.3	4.43	5.1
Holyhead	3.35	4.6	4.03	4.8	Southampton	4.14	4.0	4.41	3.8
Hull	11.46	6.2			Swansea	11.46	7.9		
Ilfracombe	11.19	7.6	11.50	7.3	Tees	9.26	4.4	9.42	4.5
King's Lynn	11.52	5.2			W'ton-on-Nze	4.46	3.8	5.32	3.8
Leith	8.11	4.6	8.32	4.8					

Tide in metres: 1m=3.2806ft.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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CBI says pay settlements are falling fast

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

JOHN Banham, the CBI director general, claims that pay settlements are falling fast, with many companies settling at about 6 per cent and often below.

Earlier this week, the independent Incomes Data Services said there was, as yet, no sign of settlements falling from a level of 9 to 10 per cent, despite the decline in retail price inflation.

In an economic presentation to the monthly meeting of the CBI council, however, Mr Banham said all the evidence available from companies indicated that settlement levels were falling much faster than IDS statistics and the government's figures on average earnings increases showed.

Despite Mr Banham's statement, the CBI is bracing itself for what could be a difficult set of figures from its own pay databank, which monitors settlement levels. Figures for the final quarter of 1990 are due to be published soon.

Because there are relatively few settlements in the final quarter, but because it contains high motor industry pay deals, there is some expectation in the CBI that the databank figures may not show the decline in pay settlements that Mr Banham is claiming. Accordingly, CBI officials have been told to re-emphasise unit labour costs, which take into account overall performance and productivity, rather than just pay settlement levels.

The CBI council sharply criticised EC proposals for greater employee participation and consultation. A draft directive requires multinational companies employing 1,000 workers within the EC, and with at least two plants in different member states, to establish European works councils, with specific rights to meet the company's management and to have detailed information about the company.

Describing the proposal as "an alien structure", Sir Brian Corby, CBI president, said it was "a bureaucrat's delight – conjured up to meet non-existent problems, cumbersome, expensive and utterly irrelevant to the real needs of companies and their employees".

The government is opposed to the directive, which will need the support of all EC members. The CBI said it was looking to Britain and other member governments to prevent the adoption of the directive, which Sir Brian said failed to recognise the need for diversity in employee relations, and carried with it no evidence that employees would be better involved.

The CBI also called for the "urgent resumption" of talks under the Uruguay round of the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade, which all but collapsed last month, mainly over difficulties about agricultural subsidies.

The CBI said a successful resolution of the round should be possible if adequate flexibility were shown by both Europe and America. Mr Banham said: "What is at stake is crucial. The wider interests of manufacturing and service industries should not be sacrificed on the altar of French and German agriculture."

The CBI is preparing a statement on goals for business in the Nineties. Called Business Agenda, the statement will set out the CBI's analysis of what is required to get the British economy through the decade. It will focus on squeezing inflation out of the economy, bridging the investment gap between Britain and principal economic competitors and reviving the manufacturing base through increased investment.

Key role for surveys, page 27



Up for partial sale: Malcolm Stephens, the chief executive, speaking yesterday about the bill to sell the ECGD

Fears for exporters over agency sale

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

GOVERNMENT concessions over the provision of insurance cover for deals with high risk countries are unlikely to soothe fears that part-privatisation of the Export Credits Guarantee Department will reduce exporters' chances in much of the developing world.

The ECGD, which has about £750 million of outstanding claims on its books from business with Iraq, wants to bring premiums closer in line with market prices, and eliminate cross-subsidy between different types of business. But the timing and changes accompanying the part-privatisation have come under attack from the City for threatening Britain's export chances by removing cover entirely, or by making insurance more expensive than in competitor countries.

Tim Sainsbury, the trade minister, made clear in the Commons on Tuesday that the government was sticking to its position over the provision of reinsurance after privatisation of ECGD's short-term credit arm. Although he agreed to keep the reinsurance issue under review, after a three-year transitional period, ECGD officials said the department would not be operating "national interest" reinsurance at a loss.

By not underwriting business that knowingly turns to loss, the ECGD could wipe markets off the list of countries for which it has hitherto offered cover.

Several British and foreign organisations have shown interest in buying the profitable, Cardiff-based, short-term arm of ECGD, with Trade Indemnity, the British credit insurer, and NCM, of the Netherlands, believed to be the front-runners. A bill enabling the sale received its second reading this week.

The ECGD officials underlined that, with half of its short-term business in trade with European Commmunity countries, and between 75 and 80 per cent with the leading industrial nations, the Cardiff operation's exposure in risk markets had been misunderstood. They dismissed fears that British exporters could find difficulties in obtaining credit insurance, while other EC governments continued to support their exporters.

City may have to bear risk in power sell-off

By Martin Waller

THE government is considering omitting a *force majeure* clause from the written agreements with the underwriters when it floats the two electricity generators, leaving the City to bear the risk of any stock market crash caused by bad news from the Gulf.

Instead, advisers are likely to stress to institutions that the government will not leave them facing unacceptable losses if the market slumps.

The energy department is convinced the situation has changed substantially since the 12 regional distributors were floated last year. Then the institutions were effectively able to force the department to hand over to them the decision on whether to pull the float in the outbreak of war.

A side-letter was included in the underwriting agreements that allowed institutions to halt the flotation if war broke out, if the market fell as a result, and if they were left facing losses.

Such a clause would need redrafting to cover the flotation of National Power and PowerGen. The first of the three "triggers," the outbreak of war, has already occurred, and the markets have demonstrated they can still operate.

The government has also chosen to cut out the primary underwriters, whose contracts contained the original *force majeure* clause, and go straight to about 270 institutions who would normally sub-underwrite.

The government is determined to continue with the flotation for now, and the final decision will be taken shortly before impact day on February 22.

After that, it is likely to be the government's decision alone whether to pull the flotation, although such a course would inevitably be considered after a fall running to several hundred points off the indices.

● The government will not appoint its own directors to the boards of the generators despite the decision to hold back 40 per cent of the equity from the flotation. Advisers to the issue are keen to emphasise that the companies will be given as free a hand as possible to operate.

Brady seeks extra $30bn for thrifts

NICHOLAS Brady, the American treasury secretary, is seeking a further $30 billion from Congress this year to bail out troubled savings and loan banks, or "thrifts" (Reuter reports from Washington).

Mr Brady told the Senate banking committee that the Resolution Trust Corp would need the additional money to carry out plans to take over and sell 225 thrifts with $145 billion in assets. "The most sensible and appropriate way for Congress to address the funding issue is to provide the RTC with the permanent funding necessary to get the whole job done," he said.

Mr Brady said permanent funding would allow the RTC to do its job without costly interruptions. If Congress failed to approve open-ended funding this would mean delays and substantial extra costs to taxpayers, he added.

Congress voted $50 billion for the bailout in 1989, but this money will have run out by the end of February. Congress adjourned last year without approving more money.

THE POUND

US dollar
1.9560 (+0.0075)
German mark
2.9102 (–0.0019)
Exchange index
94.1 (same)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1628.2 (–2.4)
FT-SE 100
2080.5 (–1.1)
New York Dow Jones
2616.34 (+13.12)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
23050.10 (–203.55)
Closing Prices ... Page 29

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 14%
3-month interbank 14 1/32-14%
3-month eligible bills 13 11/32-13 5/16%
US: Prime Rate 9½%
Federal Funds 6¾%*
3-month Treasury Bills 6.16-6.15%*
30-year bonds 105 24/32-105 13/16*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.9560	£: $1.9550*
£: DM2.9102	$: DM1.4890*
£: SwFr2.4494	$: SwFr1.2525*
£: FFr9.8964	$ FFr5.0605*
£: Yen258.29	$: Yen132.25*
£: Index 94.1	$ Index 60.8
ECU £0.703141	SDR £0.734108
£: ECU1.422189	£: SDR1.362197

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $377.90 pm $378.30
close $379.25-379.75 (£194.75-195.25)
New York:
Comex $379.55-380.05*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar) ..... $21.50 bbl ($20.50)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.58	2.43
Austria Sch	21.55	20.15
Belgium Fr	62.90	58.90
Canada $	2.365	2.215
Denmark Kr	11.70	11.00
Finland Mkk	7.41	6.98
France Fr	10.31	9.71
Germany Dm	3.04	2.85
Greece Dr	330	310
Hong Kong $	15.65	14.85
Ireland Pt	1.14	1.07
Italy Lira	2295	2155
Japan Yen	272.50	256.50
Netherlands Gld	3.425	3.215
Norway Kr	11.90	11.20
Portugal Esc	269.50	253.50
South Africa Rd	5.50	4.90
Spain Pta	190	178
Sweden Kr	11.37	10.69
Switzerland Fr	2.565	2.405
Turkey Lira	6000	5500
USA $	2.035	1.915
Yugoslavia Dnr	30.00	23.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques
Retail Price Index: 129.9 (December)

Banks await law lords' swap ruling

More than 70 banks who entered into interest rate swap deals with local authorities in England and Wales will learn today whether they will be able to recover £500 million they say is owed them.

The law lords will rule on a test case involving Hammersmith and Fulham council, which is being sued for £180 million by five banks.

Lowndes order allows payout

Lowndes Queensway, the furniture retailer that crashed last August with debts of about £300 million, has been compulsorily wound up in the High Court.

The order paves the way for a payout to the 42,000 customers who have lodged claims.

Gilt tranche is undersubscribed

The government's return to the gilt-edged market after two-and-a-half years was given a cool reception, with the £500 million issue of a further tranche of five-year 10 per cent conversion stock undersubscribed. The Bank of England said all tenders were allotted in full at the minimum price of £97.75 per cent.

Comment, page 27

Tonks ahead

Newman Tonks Group reports pre-tax profits of £23.2 million (£21.2 million) for the year to end-October. A final dividend of 5.5p makes 9.3p (same) for the year.

Tempus, page 27

Richmond Oil loss

Losses at Richmond Oil & Gas rose in the six months to end-September to £1.02 million (£182,000). A dividend was again passed, but turnover jumped to £812,000 (£20,000).

Tempus, page 27



Expanding service: Richard Groom of the Woolwich

Woolwich buys 191 Pru estate branches

By Neil Bennett, Banking Correspondent

THE Woolwich Building Society has bought two regions of the Prudential's loss-making estate agency chain for £21.75 million.

The acquisition will turn the society into one of the largest estate agency owners in the country, with more than 400 branches.

The price confirms fears that the Prudential is unlikely to receive more than £60 million for the entire chain, and that it has suffered a loss of more than £300 million on its five-year venture into the business.

Woolwich is buying the eastern and Thames regions of Prudential Property Services with a total of 191 branches. The price of £100,000 a branch is less than a quarter of the amount paid by other building societies and insurance group at the height of the property market three years ago.

Previously Woolwich had been criticised for not investing in estate agency like many of its competitors.

Richard Groom, the managing director of Woolwich Property Services, said he planned to close up to 14 of the branches because of duplications. The sale begins the break-up of the Prudential's estate agency business, once the largest in Britain. Mick Newmarch, Prudential's chief executive, said negotiations to sell the other three regions of the chain, each with about 100 branches, are continuing. "The price was within our expectations" he said.

Donald Kirkham, Woolwich's chief executive, said the building society had picked up a bargain. "I felt like jumping in the air when we signed," he said. "When we wanted to go into estate agency the cost was exorbitant and we did not follow the herd instinct. The time to go in is now when the entry cost is lower.

"We reckon the market is at the bottom and can only go one way."

Woolwich will spend up to £3 million rebranding the Prudential branches, although Mr Groom said the society may resurrect some of the agencies' original names, particularly the former Chestertons branches in west London.

By coincidence, Sir Oliver Chesterton, a one-time senior partner at the agency, is Woolwich's president.

Worries over widening of Gulf war depress shares

By Our Business Staff

FEARS of a widening of the Gulf war depressed shares and underpinned oil prices.

Bond prices rose in most markets, however, and the dollar fell in response to signs of disagreement between America and Germany over the future course of world interest rates.

The dollar fell after Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, told a congressional committee that the Fed would have to consider "additional actions", including a further cut in interest rates, to stimulate the growth of the American economy and money supply.

Meanwhile, Hans Tietmeyer, a Bundesbank board member, told a conference that German policy would be aimed at strengthening the mark against other currencies and added that there was no room for lower interest rates in Germany. The comment contributed to the strength of the mark and weakened the dollar and the pound.

Oil prices were up but off the day's highs, after Moshe Arens, the Israeli defence minister, said Israel would respond to Iraqi missile attacks. He did not say when.

American oil futures rose $1.17 to $23.05 a barrel on the expiry of the February contract, pushed higher by American Petroleum Institute figures showing that American distillate inventories tumbled by an unexpected 7.8 million barrels in the week ended January 18.

London tracked New York, with Brent crude for delivery in March trading at $24.40 a barrel, up 90 cents, and continuing to recover after last week's sharp fall following the outbreak of war.

In London, the FT-SE 100 index closed 2,080.5, down 1.1.

Lloyd's cargo war risk rates have been reduced for certain Middle East ports, the first fall since the start of the war last Wednesday.

ICI fertiliser business may close

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

THE threat of closure hangs over Britain's biggest agricultural fertiliser business.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) has rejected plans by ICI to sell the bulk of its fertiliser operations to Kemira, the Finnish chemicals group. In evidence to the MMC, ICI said it would be "likely" to close its entire UK fertiliser operation, employing 1,180 people, if the merger were prevented.

The merger judgment was presented alongside a report approving plans by Crédit Lyonnais of France to increase its stake in Woodchester Investments, the Irish leasing company that operates in Britain. Last night Sir Denys Henderson, the ICI chairman, was closeted with chief executives to discuss the MMC's judgment. ICI said it would "consider all its options". ICI's UK fertiliser operations have lost money in each of the past four years. In evidence to the MMC it said it would seek an alternative buyer, but had little hope of success. Norsk Hydro was the only other would-be buyer when the sale, involving assets of £60 million, was first proposed.

Production of solid fertilisers at Billingham, on Teesside, Leith, near Edinburgh, and Severnside near Bristol, would continue, ICI said.

Meanwhile, ICI Australia revealed a 60 per cent fall in profits after tax for the first quarter of the 1991 financial year, although revenue fell only 3 per cent.

In its report, the MMC acknowledged the risk to jobs but concluded that the loss of competition if the merger went ahead would be even more serious.

The monopoly inquiry, headed by Sir Sidney Lipworth, the MMC's chairman, found that three companies accounted for two thirds of UK agricultural fertiliser sales. ICI was the largest with 29 per cent, Kemira had 18 per cent, and Hydro Fertilisers, part of Norsk Hydro, had 19 per cent. The MMC concluded that Kemira would control over 40 per cent of the UK market if the takeover were approved. Its market strength would become excessive now market forces were reducing oversupply.

Kemira and Crédit Lyonnais demonstrated to the the MMC that they operated outside their home countries according to commercial principles, without interference from government shareholders.

Craig McKinney, the executive chairman of Woodchester, welcomed the decision, saying the delay had cost Woodchester Ir£5 million in interest forgone.

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Shake-up planned in company reporting

Curtains for accounts farce

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

THE newly constituted Accounting Standards Board is planning the biggest shake-up in company accounts for a generation. David Tweedie, the board's chairman, said: "We want to change the basic structure of accounts."

The traditional true and fair view will no longer be regarded as an adequate test of company accounts. They will also have to conform to a new set of principles geared to their usefulness as well as the letter of accounting standards or the planned new financial reporting standards. Mr Tweedie said the board had accepted all the existing accounting standards agreed by the accounting institutes. "But that does not mean we will keep them. We shall review them all."

The board will propose some sweeping changes this year. High priority is being given to a drastic restructuring of profit and loss accounts, a new compulsory cash flow statement and measures to outlaw creative accounting.

Proposals for changing the existing profit and loss account, which was described as farcical, are likely to include a clear differentiation between continuing trading profits and other sources of profit. This will bring many items now treated as extraordinary into the main profit statement. A statement of changes in reserves will also be required.

Sir Ron Dearing, chairman of the Financial Reporting Council, of which the ASB is a division, said that directors and institutional shareholders, as well as auditors, should take responsibility for making sure that accounts were not merely true and fair but informative, applying the spirit as well as the letter of the law and accounting standards. He called on institutional shareholders to press company boards to improve accounting standards.

Mr Tweedie plans to issue five draft papers on basic principles of accounting, ranging from the purpose to the display of accounts, which will form party of a statement of principles to which accounts must conform. He said the principles would help the council's review panel, which starts operating on February 1, to force big companies to conform to standards.

The council's urgent issues task force, which will give temporary rulings on new accounting techniques, will also be set up next month.

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THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN COTTON FACTORIES PLC

Notice Under Section 27 Trustee Act 1925

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustees Act 1925 that any person claiming to be a holder of (a) any of the £300,000 First Charge Debentures of The Anglo-Russian Cotton Factories Plc (formerly The Anglo-Russian Cotton Factories, Limited) created by a Trust Deed dated January 21, 1897 ("the First Charge Debentures") or of any interest coupon which was attached thereto or claiming to be entitled to any other interest under any of the First Charge Debentures or (b) any of the £200,000 Second Charge Debentures of The Anglo-Russian Cotton Factories Plc (formerly The Anglo-Russian Cotton Factories, Limited) created by a Trust Deed dated January 21, 1897 ("the Second Charge Debentures") or of any interest coupon which was attached thereto or claiming to be entitled to any other interest under any of the Second Charge Debentures is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the Trustees for the Debenture holders at the address specified below not later than April 15.1991, after which date the funds held upon the trusts applicable to the First Charge Debentures and the Second Charge Debentures may be distributed by the Trustees among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

January 3, 1991
R.K. Butson
P.C. Forbes
(Trustees for the First Charge Debenture Holders and the Second Charge Debenture Holders)
c/o R.N. Arthur
Ernst & Young
400 Capability Green
Luton
LU1 3LU

Dealers say Nissan car is too costly

By KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

INDEPENDENT Nissan dealers have warned the Japanese car maker that they will fail to sell its new British-built model for £2,000 more than the price of rival models in Britain and for more than the car is being sold abroad.

The UK Independent Nissan Dealer Action Group, which represents 20 dealers, has written to the Nissan Motor Company of Japan to express its "shock and deep concern" after learning of the termination of Nissan UK's distribution agreement through the media.

The group said the way in which Nissan Motor's intentions were announced had cost the dealers business and undermined the confidence of staff.

On the pricing policy of the new Primera model, being built at Washington, Tyne and Wear, the action group said the car is too expensive in Britain to compete with rivals.

Merger with Evered puts £88m value on Bardon

By MARTIN BARROW

EVERED and Bardon Group have confirmed that they are to merge, forming Britain's fifth largest quarrying and building products group.

The merger is to take place through an all-paper offer by Evered that values Bardon at £88 million.

The offer has been recommended by Peter Tom, chairman and chief executive of Bardon, and his family interests, who speak for 57 per cent of the ordinary shares and 5.4 per cent of the convertible preference shares. Mr Tom becomes chief executive of the enlarged group, to be named Evered Bardon. Sir Peter Parker, now chairman of Evered, will be chairman. Roy Kettle, chief executive of Evered, becomes vice-chairman.

Terms of the offer are five new Evered shares for every four Bardon ordinary shares and one new Evered convertible preference share for each Bardon convertible. The offer values Bardon's ordinary shares at 96p, compared with a mid-market price of 94p on Tuesday, when trading was suspended ahead of the merger announcement. Evered shares fell 4p to 76p after returning from suspension.

Bardon shareholders will receive a second interim dividend of 1.9p a share in lieu of a final dividend. Evered proposes to pay a final dividend of not less than 3.66p a share to its original shareholders.

The merger will create a quarry products business with a market capitalisation of about £317 million. Evered Bardon will have land-based consented aggregates reserves of more than 225 million tonnes in the UK and access to about a billion tonnes of aggregates in America.

Both companies have recently issued cautious trading statements because of the downturn in construction in Britain and America. Analysts have forecast a fall in pre-tax profits at Evered from £39 million in 1989 to £37.5 million for 1990.

Bardon achieved profits of £12.1 million in 1989 but earned just £1 million before tax for the six months to June 1990, prompting the City to downgrade full-year forecasts to about £7.5 million before tax.

Although the terms have been endorsed by Bardon's controlling shareholders, holders of convertible preference shares are believed to be unhappy with the offer. The principal holders are 3i, the venture capital group, and UBS Phillips & Drew, the investment house. They speak for almost 40 per cent of the preference shares.

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Striking a deal: Peter Tom of Bardon (left) and Roy Kettle of Evered yesterday

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily ch'ge (£)	Yearly ch'ge (£)	Daily ch'ge (lc)*	Yearly ch'ge (lc)*	Daily ch'ge (US$)	Yearly ch'ge (US$)
The World	565.2	-0.5	-33.0	-0.2	-23.9	-0.8	-19.0
(free)	108.1	-0.6	-33.0	-0.3	-23.9	-0.8	-19.0
EAFE	967.2	-1.0	-37.9	-0.7	-32.4	-1.3	-24.9
(free)	99.4	-1.0	-38.0	-0.8	-32.5	-1.3	-25.1
Europe	578.1	-0.5	-24.0	-0.5	-21.2	-0.8	-8.1
(free)	125.0	-0.6	-23.5	-0.8	-21.0	-0.9	-7.5
Nth America	414.8	0.3	-22.9	0.0	-6.8	0.0	-6.8
Nordic	1075.5	0.5	-30.9	0.6	-25.4	0.2	-16.5
(free)	178.9	0.0	-24.8	0.2	-19.2	-0.3	-9.1
Pacific	2152.7	-1.3	-45.7	-0.9	-39.2	-1.6	-34.4
Far East	3119.5	-1.4	-46.1	-0.9	-39.9	-1.7	-34.8
Australia	229.0	-0.1	-34.1	-0.3	-19.6	-0.4	-20.3
Austria	1193.3	-1.7	-19.7	-1.5	-14.1	-2.0	-2.9
Belgium	673.5	-0.9	-31.6	-0.9	-28.4	-1.2	-17.3
Canada	411.2	0.2	-31.5	-0.3	-17.1	-0.1	-17.2
Denmark	1066.0	-0.9	-19.0	-0.5	-14.3	-1.1	-2.1
Finland	60.2	-0.5	-47.8	-0.3	-43.7	-0.8	-36.9
(free)	82.1	-0.5	-44.9	-0.3	-40.5	-0.8	-33.4
France	563.0	-1.7	-30.4	-1.7	-26.0	-2.0	-15.8
Germany	659.9	-1.0	-28.1	-0.9	-23.2	-1.3	-13.1
Hong Kong	1951.8	1.3	-12.0	1.0	6.2	1.0	6.4
Italy	243.4	-1.1	-36.9	-1.1	-32.4	-1.4	-23.7
Japan	3272.4	-1.4	-47.0	-0.9	-41.0	-1.7	-35.9
Netherlands	709.3	-0.5	-25.0	-0.5	-20.0	-0.8	-9.3
New Zealand	50.6	-2.6	-51.0	-2.5	-40.8	-2.9	-40.7
Norway	1000.6	-0.3	-25.5	-0.1	-20.0	-0.6	-9.9
(free)	176.0	-0.3	-24.7	-0.1	-19.2	-0.6	-8.9
Sing/Malay	1417.9	-1.0	-28.9	-1.0	-21.5	-1.3	-14.1
Spain	162.4	-0.8	-31.4	-0.8	-28.6	-1.1	-17.0
Sweden	1173.0	1.5	-33.1	1.5	-27.1	1.2	-19.1
(free)	172.1	1.1	-28.9	1.1	-22.5	0.8	-14.1
Switzerland	695.6	0.9	-23.9	0.9	-25.0	0.6	-8.0
(free)	105.5	0.8	-24.4	0.9	-25.4	0.5	-8.6
UK	620.1	-0.3	-14.0	-0.3	-14.0	-0.5	4.0
USA	376.2	0.3	-22.1	0.0	-5.9	0.0	-5.9

(lc)* Local currency. Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 21	February 1	April 25	May 7

Call options were taken out on: 23/1/91 Avnva Petroleum, Iverna West, Next.
Puts & Calls: Midland Bank, Sears.

The London Traded Options have been held out because of pressure of space

British Gas to repay £4m to customers

By ROSS TIEMAN

BRITISH Gas will repay more than £4 million to industrial customers after being forced to abandon price changes introduced last autumn.

Under pressure from James McKinnon, director of Ofgas, the company has agreed to draw up a new industrial tariff structure in consultation with big gas users.

Many of British Gas's 20,000 contract customers reacted with anger after the company imposed new tariffs.

British Gas conceded that the tariff change would have resulted in an extra £15 million a year of income on £1 billion of industrial sales. New schedules were likely to produce a drop in income of £7 million to £8 million over a full year.

British Gas has agreed to provide an immediate rebate of 3p per therm, backdated to October 1.

Economic indicator sees recession until end of year

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A GOVERNMENT guide to future activity indicates that the British economy will pick up at the end of this year after a lengthy recession that plumbs depths last seen in 1980-1.

The Central Statistical Office's longer leading indicator, which identifies turning points in the economy 12 months ahead, jumped a provisional 0.8 per cent in November to 95.2, after a modest 0.2 per cent rise in October.

Ruth Lea, chief economist at Mitsubishi Bank, saw the series adding support to the growing City view that the recession will run to the end of 1991. The government has more optimistically forecast recovery by the second half.

But uncertainties generated by the Gulf conflict meant that hopes of an early cut in the base rate had been put on hold, a factor likely to further delay recovery, she said.

Ian Harnett, chief economist at Strauss Turnbull, found the sharp upturn in the longer leader in November strange, given market knowledge of component factors. He recalled that the index had signalled "false dawns" earlier this year.

"The numbers imply that the economy will not escape with a short, sharp recession, and that it will last right to the end of the year," he said, noting that the expected worsening of the fiscal deficit in the final quarter of 1990 would darken the recovery prospects even more.

Revised figures for the other indicators in October showed that all had been in decline for some time as the economy slowed.

The shorter leading index continues to decline, reflecting falling balances for new orders in the Confederation of British Industry survey of new orders, and lower consumer credit and car registrations. The coincident indicator was down on falling retail sales and other economic measures.

Logitek passes payout

LOGITEK, the computer services group, has axed its interim dividend after first-half profits slumped. Mike Brooke, the managing director has resigned.

The company's pre-tax profits dived to £145,000 (£1.31 million) in the six months to end-September. Turnover advanced to £33.1 million (£18.7 million). The shares lost 3p to 10p.

Operating profits slid to £836,000 (£1.36 million). Overall interest costs surged to £691,000 (£50,000). Earnings per share plunged to 0.52p (6.69p). There is no interim dividend (1.3p). There was an extraordinary debit of £259,000.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Royal Bank's US offshoot falls to $4.5m

THE Royal Bank of Scotland has become the latest British institution to be hit by the banking recession in America. Net profits at Citizens Financial, Royal's American subsidiary, fell 33 per cent to $4.54 million in the three months to end-December, after a sharp rise in bad debt provisions. Citizens was forced to increase its loan loss charge by 50 per cent to $3.65 million. The bank also wrote off merger expenses of $600,000 to cover reorganisation of Old Colony Bank, which it bought from the Bank of New England last autumn.

Like all its competitors in New England, Citizens has faced a surge of bad debts from commercial property companies. Kenneth Hogberg, Citizens chief financial officer, said the bank's non-performing loan book had risen 126 per cent to $71 million since last year. This he said was still only 2.6 per cent of all lending.

Profits rise at Porsche

PORSCHE'S net profits rose from DM54.2 million to DM68.4 million during the year to end-July. For the second year running, the company decided to raise both dividends by DM1. Ordinary shares are now DM12 and preference shares DM13. The increase in profits stems mainly from a good performance in Germany, which has now replaced America as Porsche's largest market.

Bullough buys Taylor Freeze

BULLOUGH, the office furniture to engineering group, has acquired Taylor Freezer (UK) for £2.09 million in cash and 1.67 million ordinary shares, a total of about £3.48 million. Taylor, which sells and services equipment for making frozen products, made pre-tax profits of £900,000 in the year to end-September, and had net assets of £1.4 million. Bullough shares were unchanged at 84p.

Flogas improves sales

PRE-TAX profits at Flogas, the Irish distributor of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and appliances, advanced from Ir£1.02 million (£930,000) to Ir£1.51 million in the six months to end-November, on turnover ahead to Ir£19.7 million (Ir£10.9 million). The company said that sales volumes and profits increased in all its geographical areas but profit margins declined due to increases in raw material costs.

Earnings per share climbed to 5.2p(4.55p). The interim dividend improved to 2.67p (2.54p). Flogas said that uncertainty in the Gulf and strong winter demand had increased supply prices in December and January, maintaining pressure on margins. Colman O'Keeffe will join the group as financial director on February 25.

Electron cuts dividend

ELECTRON House, the computer products and electronic components distributor, has cut its interim dividend after a slump in pre-tax profits from £1.65 million to £219,000 in the six months to end-November despite sales ahead by rising 5 per cent to £60.5 million. Earnings per share fell from 5.08p to 0.19p. The interim dividend has been cut from 2.75p to 1p.

Kingsgrange result leaps

PRE-TAX profits at Kingsgrange, the scented toiletries manufacturer, jumped to £663,000 (£309,000) in the six months to end-October, owing to improved margins and reduced finance costs. Turnover slipped to £10.7 million (£11.6 million). Trading profits increased 7 per cent to £1.09 million. Earnings remained 1.7p. There is no interim dividend.

Scott Pickford revival

SCOTT Pickford, the Unlisted Securities Market oil exploration consultancy, made a pre-tax profit of £79,744 in the six months to end-September. This compared with a loss of £22,215 last time. Turnover increased from £766,512 to £919,926. Earnings per share stood at 0.74p, against an 0.32p loss previously. As usual, there is no interim dividend.

The company said its new release of Geographics, the seismic database and mapping software package, is being well received by clients, and sales are encouraging. Scott said that the group's outlook is positive, with a satisfactory outcome expected for the full year. The shares firmed with a 1p rise to 16p.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1990 High	Low	Company	Bid	Price Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
74	22	ASB Bankt	29	35	–	–	–	–
113	43	ASD	49	55	–	–	–	–
61	16	ATA Selection	18	20	–	3.0	20.0	3.6
29p	12	Aberdeen Pet	13	15	–	–	–	–
98	24	Aberdeen Std Ins	92	96	–	–	–	–
215	165	Acal	168	173●	–	6.6	3.9	9.4
28	6	Acorn Comp	11	13	–	–	–	–
175	75	Acquisquiq	127	135●	–	7.6	5.6	10.1
153	102	Alan Paul	100	104	–	4.1	4.0	10.2
263	28	Arlington	35	38	–	–	–	–
116	78	Allen	86	88●	–	6.4	7.4	5.7
141	114	Allied Inv	170	117	–	5.2	4.5	17.2
125	68	Ald Leisure	72	76	–	2.9	3.8	48.1
43	18	Anderby Gp	18	20	–	2.0	8.5	8.1
208	121	Anne Bus Sys	129	133●	–	3.5	2.6	5.8
49	13	Apple Pac Res	15	18	–	–	–	24.5
18p	5	Apollo Watch Prods	6	8	–	0.7	7.8	4.8
360	135	App Holographics	150	160	–	–	–	–
285	160	Ashead	180	185	–	5.5	5.5	3.5
420	265	Aspen Comms	380	390	–	10.5	12.7	17.2
455	355	Assoc Brit Ports	390	400●	-3	8.5	1.9	16.5
16	3	Assoc Energy	4	5	–	–	–	–
82	45	Assoc Farmers	45	50	–	–	–	–
209	141	Assoc Kenting	155	160	–	4.9	2.5	15.1
38	15	Atlantic Sec	15	18	–	–	–	12.7
680	470	Atlas Equipment	540	560	–	22.5	3.4	16.4
42	4	Audit General	4	5	–	0.2	4.0	–
42	30	Autographic	40	43	–	2.7	11.7	13.7
48	15	BBM Design	14	16	–	2.8	17.5	2.9
19½	8	BCE	7½	8½	–	–	–	–
32	21	BLP Group	27	29	–	0.7	1.7	7.7
52	11	BTS Grp	9	11	–	0.5	5.6	–
52	32	BWD	50	52	–	2.2	5.8	5.6
155	25	Barracco	30	32	–	–	–	–
62	41	Beckenham	45	50	–	2.5	5.0	4.1
82	29	Berford (William)	30	32	–	1.0	3.1	8.1
132	70	Bernards Chess	70	80	–	3.0	3.8	8.1
30	10	Berry,Birch & Noble	10	12	–	–	–	14.2
102	65	Bidor Corp Prods	72	76	+2	6.7	8.8	10.4
102	65	Bidvest(Bidcorp)	72	76	–	6.3	8.8	10.4
5	1	Bio Isolates	1½	2½	–	–	–	28.3
119	7	Blagden	7	8	–	–	–	–
135	68	Blenkhorn	68	72	–	–	–	–
139	85	Blenkley Motors	85	90	–	10.5	10.0	4.7
195	88	Bluford Toys	90	95	+2	3.0	3.2	1.8
49	28	Border TV	45	47	–	2.5	11.2	8.8
29½	20½	Borland	23	24	–	–	–	–
195	116	Bowmore Int	190	200	–	7.5	8.8	9.2
61	31	Boyd & Bloomsbck	31	33	+1	11.7	10.5	9.2
38½	29	Bristol St	32	34	–	–	–	–
104	36	Brompton Hldgs	36	38	–	4.6	6.3	13.1
7	3	Bulls Resources	3	4	–	–	–	60.0
227	55	Business Tech	55	60	–	5.5	9.6	9.3
34	3	CDS Gp	4	6●	–	0.2	10.0	3.4
131	61	CML Micro	135	145	–	3.1	2.3	8.7
40	6	CPU Comp	11	13	–	0.6	4.4	16.9
190	100	Cap & Regional	110	120	–	12	12	4.0
180	146	Capita Gp	155	165	–	4.3	2.7	19.6
74	24	Carara Phoenix	24	26	–	1.9	2.0	78.0
38	23	Cassidy Bros	23	25	–	1.0	2.3	–
180	173	Castle Comm	173	178	–	11.3	6.5	7.2
121	86	Central Motor	86	90	–	5.0	4.8	9.4
74	24	Charwell	24	26	–	0.5	2.0	5.5
170	98	Chelsea Man	98	104	-4	4.6	3.2	–
61	35	Chisholm Grp	35	37	–	0.1	0.4	6.3
37	13	Circlefirst	13	15	–	–	–	–
24	9½	City & West	9½	11	–	–	–	–
360	280	City of Lon	280	300	–	3.6	0.1	8.5
148	78	Clarke Hooper	78	83	-3	5.5	6.4	6.2
12	3	Clearpark	4	5	–	–	–	2.6
111	66	Clint Resources	66	70	–	1.3	1.9	67.3
230	85	Colorgraphic	87	93	–	8.2	15.7	3.7
111	70	Comet Group	70	75	–	2.5	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 2	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 3	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 4	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 5	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 6	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 7	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 8	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 9	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 10	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 11	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 12	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 13	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 14	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 15	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 16	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 17	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 18	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 19	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 20	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 21	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 22	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 23	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 24	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 25	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 26	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 27	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 28	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 29	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 30	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 31	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 32	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 33	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 34	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 35	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 36	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 37	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 38	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 39	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 40	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 41	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 42	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 43	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 44	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 45	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 46	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 47	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 48	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 49	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 50	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 51	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 52	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 53	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 54	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 55	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 56	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 57	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 58	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 59	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 60	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 61	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 62	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 63	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 64	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 65	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 66	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 67	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 68	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 69	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 70	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 71	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 72	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 73	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 74	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 75	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 76	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 77	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 78	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 79	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 80	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 81	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 82	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 83	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 84	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 85	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 86	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 87	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 88	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 89	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 90	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 91	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 92	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 93	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 94	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 95	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 96	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 97	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 98	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 99	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2
118	85	Comp Retail Cv 100	85	90	–	3.0	3.3	8.2

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was same at 94.1 (day's range 93.9-94.2).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Jan 23	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.9415-1.9565	1.9555-1.9565	1.18-1 16pr	3.17-3.15pr
Montrl	2.2461-2.2715	2.2674-2.2715	0.53-0.53pr	1.12-1.03pr
Amsterdm	3.2782-3.2882	3.2784-3.2820	1¼-1¼pr	3¾-3½pr
Brussels	59.82-60 16	59.84-60.06	23-20pr	62-55pr
Copnhgn	11.1830-11.2338	11.1972-11.2225	3½-3¼pr	9¾-8¾pr
Dublin	1.0922-1.0932	1.0922-1.0932	31-24pr	78-63pr
Frankft	2.9074-2.9153	2.9084-2.9119	1¾-1¼pr	3¼-3¼pr
Lisbon	257 44-259.14	257 44-258.55	30pr-par	7-58dis
Madrid	182.35-183.39	182.35-183.03	5-13dis	22-33dis
Milan	2183.32-2192.10	2183.32-2188.35	3-2pr	9-7pr
Oslo	11.3617-11.4192	11.3712-11.3966	3¼-2¼pr	7¼-6¼pr
Paris	9.8890-9.9220	9.8890-9.9038	3¼-3¼pr	8¾-8½pr
Stckhlm	10.8569-10.9078	10.8784-10.9035	1¾-¾pr	2¾-2¾pr
Tokyo	257 55-258.45	258.13-258.45	1¾-1¼pr	3¼-3¼pr
Vienna	20.44-20.51	20.48-20.49	9-7¼pr	22¼-21pr
Zurich	2.4473-2.4562	2.4473-2.4515	1¾-1¼pr	3¾-3¼pr

Source: Extel. Premium = pr. Discount = dis.

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 14 Finance Hse 14
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 14⅛ Low 13 Week fixed: 13⅝
Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 13⅛ ; 3 mth 13⅛ . Sell: 2 mth 13⅛; 3 mth: 13⅛ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	13¹³₃₂-11¹¹₁₆	13¹³₃₂-13⅛	13¹¹₃₂-5⅛	12⅝-12½	
Trade Bills (Dis):	14¹¹₃₂	14¹³₃₂	13¹¹₃₂	13⅛	
Interbank:	14⅛-14⅛	14⅛-14	14¹³₃₂-14	13⅝-7⅛	12¹¹₃₂-12⅝
(Overnight open 14⅛, close 13 .					
Local Authority Depts:	14⅛	n/a	14	13½	13
Sterling CDs:	14¹³₃₂-14¹₃₂	14⅛-14	13¹¹₃₂-13⅜	13⅛-13⅛	13-12⅛
Dollar CDs:	6.93-6.88	6.95-6.90	7.13-7.08	7.13-7.08	7.32-7.27
Building Society CDs:	14¹³₃₂-14¹₃₂	14¹₃₂-13¹³₃₂	14-13⅝	13½-13¾	13-12⅝

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6¾-6¼	6¾-6¹¹₁₆	7⅛-7	7¼-7⅛	6¼-5⅝
Deutschemark:	8¼-8⅛	8¼-8¼	9¼-9⅛	9⅞-9¾	8⅛-7¼
French Franc:	10-9¾	10-9⅞	10⅜-10⅛	10⅜-10¼	10-9
Swiss

Farewell to creative accountants

COMMENT

Bookcookers and tired finance directors beware. David Tweedie pledged that his new Accounting Standards Board would retreat from the gunfire of goodwill and go back to basics. But anyone who thought this would usher in a peaceful period of navel-gazing will receive a severe shock from his programme for the year.

Cashflow statements, which might have saved many investors over the past year, will be compulsory within months. So will severe restrictions on off-balance-sheet finance, which will cause some headaches among many others, to property companies. At the same time, the review panel will start enforcing standards rigorously and the urgent issues task force will make life harder for anyone with bright ideas to dress up recession-hit accounts. That should keep the auditors busy.

Meanwhile, Mr Tweedie and his colleagues will be working purposefully towards what amounts to an accounting revolution. The key to this is a basic change in thinking. The old principle of certainty, which allowed companies to draw up accounts safely according to reliable rules, is out. Instead, rules will be overridden by a more general principle that accounts must tell those who read them what has really been happening.

As Sir Ron Dearing points out, the regulators are on the same side as investors and analysts, who now have to go through contortions to work out the "true" earnings or gearing from hints in small print scattered round annual reports.

UBS Phillips & Drew, in a timely study of the growth of creative accounting techniques, not surprisingly finds that they were widely used by many of the companies that have recently gone to the wall. Coloroll managed to write off more than the entire purchase price of one acquisition, which would have greatly boosted future profits had the group not failed.

Deferred payments for acquisitions through future earnout payments, which look good at the time, have undermined a series of advertising and other agency businesses. Off balance sheet finance for property deals has suddenly become a very real liability.

Many have tried to grapple with such practices. The regime of the Financial Reporting Council, bolstered by full-time staff, may just be able to do it over time.

Gilt tender

If you were selling wet fish at above the going market price, you would expect a lot of unsold goods left on the slab. But when, as yesterday, the government stages a return to the gilt-edged market after a two year lay-off a better result might have been expected.

But there was no disappointment to be detected in the Bank of England's matter-of fact announcement that its £500 million tranche of five year tap stock had been undersubscribed. All tenders received by the Central Gilts Office were allotted in full at the minimum price of £97.75 per cent. And, as a past master of pricing, Threadneedle Street could hardly have expected things to go otherwise. At the 10 am cut-off point for tenders, the minimum price was still two ticks above the market price.

That might be pretty fine, given the uncertain times, but it was never going to trigger a rush to snap up the issue.

While the Old Lady was keeping its usual mum about how much was taken up, word in the City was that precious little was sold. The gilt market largely ignored the whole affair. So what was the exercise all about?

Did the Bank deliberately overprice so as to leave most of the issue on its books? In spite of the Bank's stated intention to make the issue specifically for market management purposes, one answer must be that the coolly-received tap stock provided a good way of heralding bumper gilts sales to come — a sort of introductory offer. Further, it gives the market time to get back up to speed on gilts before the real onslaught to meet government funding later this year.

And, with so much of the issue still on the authorities' books, it unquestionably supplies a valuable tool for market management. The verdict must be that this sale was no failure. Unsold tap stock is a far cry from rotting fish, leaving the market authorities with ammunition to bring the market to heel during any Gulf induced volatility.

DTI rebuff

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission has given short shrift to trade secretary Peter Lilley's contention that mergers involving state-owned companies should be given a rougher than usual ride by regulators.

Mr Lilley appeared to depart from long established principles that competition criteria are paramount when he suggested last July that certain mergers could be considered "nationalisation by the back door."

The MMC has heard recitations of the Lilley line since and had little trouble reaching the firm conclusion that there should be no shifting the burden of proof from innocent until proved guilty towards the reverse. Future bids will be treated case by case and Mr Lilley must clearly amend the law if he wishes otherwise.

Rival surveys play key role in economic health check

ARGUMENTS about whether Britain's economy is in recession or not, which prompted heated debate only a few months ago, now look quaint.

The ground has shifted: the gripping point of interest for business today is not whether Britain is in a recession, but *how long it will last.*

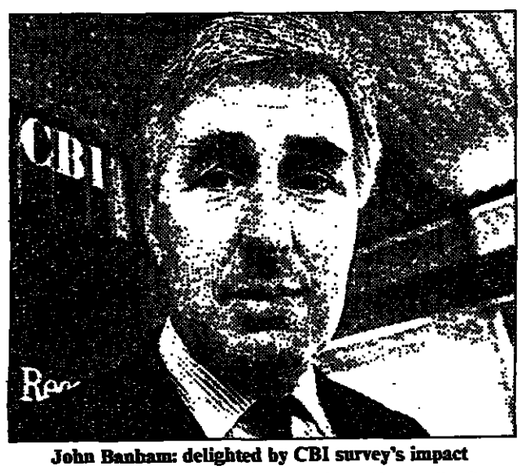
For most companies, the real indicators are stark and physical: how much product is moving, how a service is selling, what the stock position is, what the order books look like. Keeping a close eye on the books and what is in the yard are, for most companies, the best way of measuring the recession.

But beyond the level of the individual enterprise, and apart from anecdotal accounts, the only ways of attempting to keep track of the health of Britain's 1.2 million registered companies are the numbers: the retrospective figures from the government on output, trade, gross domestic product and others, and a plethora of survey material.

Some of these surveys are decidedly shaky, with questionable samples, techniques, interpretation and presentation. The two most reliable indicators on the *health* or otherwise of British industry are about to report: today will see the quarterly survey from the British Chambers of Commerce, and Tuesday will see the quarterly industrial trends survey from the Confederation of British Industry.

Both will make gloomy reading. In October, their quarterly estimates were the first real evidence of how strong the grip of recession already was, although it was a sign of the nervousness over the "R" word that the two surveys produced an angels-on-a-pinhead argument about whether the recession was "severe" (BCC), or just "serious" (CBI).

In part, this reflected a deeper and more long-standing argument about which organisation best represents British business: the established, corporatist CBI, fuelled by industry's big players, or the more locally based chambers, reflecting smaller companies. Or perhaps it is the more maverick, individualist Institute of Directors. With the prize the ear of government, the CBI and BCC economic surveys have emerged as one of the main grounds on which this battle is being fought.



John Banham: delighted by CBI survey's impact

The CBI's is the longest-established. First started in 1958 by the CBI's forerunner *to measure a recession*, the thrice-yearly survey went quarterly in 1972. The survey rests on a postal sample of about 1,200 replies to a standard questionnaire, and covers only manufacturing industry. Its two principal strengths are that it can be broken down by sector, and it gives an especially valuable view of industry over a long time because it has been going for more than 30 years.

The BCC's is the larger survey. Today's will cover about 6,700 companies, although it is dominated by smaller firms: 85 per cent of its sample have less than 200 employees, compared with less than 60 per cent in the CBI survey. Local chambers carry out their own surveys, regional chambers collate them, and the numbers are analysed nationally to provide the overall results. Its *main strengths are its* focus on smaller companies, its regional spread and its inclusion of the service sector.

Both are produced quickly, with results available within weeks of the survey period. Both can be wrong, both can be quirky. Both are argumentative, both have had impact. Inevitably, given how long it has been going, the CBI's is greater: when Margaret Thatcher, then the prime minister, announced Britain's entry into the European exchange-rate mechanism and a cut in interest rates, she listed the surveys on the economy from the CBI as one of the reasons why doing so was possible.

John Banham, director general of the CBI, was delighted: "You might ask what is going on in Whitehall that they have to rely on this relic of the corporate state about what is going on in the real world."

Whitehall is not quite so enthusiastic, although principal users of the surveys, such as government economists and statisticians, rate both as early and close predictors of what the official figures will later show. One departmental statistician said: "They are a useful set of indicators. We regard these two surveys as a little bit more information to add to the general picture we get."

The Central Statistical Office said both were respected and valued by government as legitimate indicators, and pointed out that the CBI's trends survey was one of the few non-governmental statistics on the CSO monthly list of forthcoming sets of figures. The BCC is also applying to be allowed onto the list.

A government economist said the BCC survey's regional breakdown was especially valuable, and Alex Bowen, acting economic director of the National Economic Development Office, said of the CBI survey: "We do use their surveys very widely. We find them very useful for monitoring expectations about future prospects on the economy."

Does business use such detailed surveys? They are closely reported in the business press, and CBI market research shows that its industrial surveys were mainly used periodically by companies when preparing their budgets or operating plans, although 20 per cent of companies say they regularly use them for business planning.

How things look out of the *window or on the spreadsheet* are bound to remain the primary tools for any company, but as the economic downturn continues, measuring the recession by tracking large-scale survey work will be vital.

PHILIP BASSETT
Industrial Editor

Newman Tonks marks time

TEMPUS

NEWMAN Tonks Group, the architectural ironmonger that is heavily tied to the construction and housing markets, managed to survive the traumas of 1990 fairly well. But it *is questionable how well it will* manage this year.

Pre-tax profits in the year to October rose 9.5 per cent to £23.2 million, on turnover up 31.3 per cent at £243.9 million.

Second-half interest earned on last year's £32 million one-for-four rights issue at 150p helped soften the year's interest charge, and gearing that had previously stood at 45.2 per cent ended up at a mere 0.5 per cent.

There was, however, net earnings dilution, down from 17.4p to 15.35p a share, which had not earlier been expected. The dividend on the higher capital is maintained at 9.3p a share, with a final payment of 5.5p.

If profits and net earnings are to move higher in 1991, Newman Tonks needs a gust of interest rate cheer – but the market looks like being denied that for a while yet.

Pre-tax profit expectations are for £20 million, net earnings of 12.8p and another maintained dividend, though at the expense of an already thin cover. At 130p on prospective 10.2 times earnings, the investment lure is hardly exciting. But Newman Tonks has two saving graces.

The balance sheet is strong, and the yield is 9.5 per cent. A share that is not to be forgotten when a more cheerful investment climate, and market, arrives.

Bardon/Evered

Bardon Group's minority shareholders and holders of the company's convertible preference shares have a right to ask whether Peter Tom, the chairman, could not have demanded a better deal from Evered on their behalf.

On the evidence available, Evered appears to have secured extremely favourable terms from Mr Tom, whose *family interests speak for* 57 per cent of the company, and his fellow directors.

In July 1990 the City valued Bardon at more than £150 million after Mr Tom decided to put his controlling stake on the market and Bardon shares rose to 175p. He subsequently changed his mind and the shares fell to 94p.

Now he has given his blessing to an offer worth 96p for the ordinary shares, which gives him a key role as chief executive in an enlarged company, with family interests holding one-third of the equity. No profit forecast has been made, which makes it difficult to assess the exit multiple.

There is no cash alternative and minority shareholders have no choice but to accept shares that will inevitably suffer from dilution and a substantial overhang of paper in the market.

Holders of the convertible preference shares are equally aggrieved. Having supported Bardon's quest for growth in the Eighties, locking in at 100p a share, they are now obliged to accept new Evered convertibles, which James Capel has *valued at 72p. Phillips & Drew* and 3i, the principal holders, can lodge protests but ultimately lack the ability to veto the deal. Investors in other family-controlled companies should take note.

Richmond Oil

RICHMOND Oil & Gas has had a turbulent relationship with the City since it came to the market in 1989. The figures for the half year to end-September have done little to heal the rift. Losses rose to £1.02 million, compared with a £182,000 shortfall. Richmond is a start-up energy *producer, and does not expect* to report a profit, or a dividend, until 1993.

More worrying was Richmond's turnover. This rose from £20,000 to £812,000. This is wildly short of the $29.19 million revenue forecast for this year in the company's original offer document. The company blames start-up difficulties in its Texas Panhandle property, where most development has been shelved until next year.

The company's oil wells also seem a disappointment. The 34 in production last month produced an average of only 34 barrels of oil per day. Even at these levels Richmond insists a well can return *its investment in two years.*

Richmond's shares have slumped to 62p, compared with the 125p price of the company's £31 million placing last November. County NatWest is one of the biggest losers. The securities house is now sitting on a £3.47 million book loss.

Even at these depressed levels, smaller investors would do well to look elsewhere.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

FROM NEW YORK

Who holds the trump card?

ATLANTIC City casino authorities are investigating whether Donald Trump, the property and gaming magnate, received a helping hand from his father in meeting the repayments of junk bonds recently. Fred Trump, a property developer, aged 85, who taught Donald almost all he knows, is alleged to have helped his son make the $18.4 million payment by having his lawyer walk into Donald's Trump Castle casino, buy $3 million of chips and then not use them at the tables. Casino regulators say this smacks of a loan and, if it was, Fred Trump must pass the regulatory test to see if he is a fit source to lend to gaming houses. Failure could mean his son will have to come up with $3 million to repay his father in a hurry. For a man whose property empire had to be rescued by 70 banks last summer, this might cause a problem. Once one of America's favourite businessmen, Trump is still in default on a $50 million payment on the casino's first mortgage to Midlantic National Bank. A Trump official said he saw nothing irregular in Fred Trump's purchase of chips.

AMERICAN army supply stores in a peanut growing state of the South have been inundated with shoppers buying gas masks. One woman appeared on the television — camera pointing at her mid section after she requested anonymity — saying she thought it was a matter of personal choice whether you wore a gas mask or not. A fellow shopper said later: "I think it's ridiculous. I don't think we're going to get a lot of germ warfare in Georgia."

Subway safety

EFFORTS to discourage the homeless from riding and sleeping in New York's subways has been dropped with the arrival of sub-zero temperatures and the refusal by the subway police to act as what they describe as social workers. Cold weather was driving the homeless into the subways faster than the police could remove them. The evicting proposal was part of a general campaign that banned begging on the trains in an attempt to reverse the trend of dwindling passengers and help close the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's $272 million budget deficit. Instead, the police now encourage the homeless to go to shelters overnight, but it does not appeal to all. A 32-year-old sleeping on a mattress next to the tracks near a tunnel in Lower Manhattan says he has been taken to two shelters by the police but came back to the tunnel because "it's quiet and no one is going to rob me".



Spoils of war

THE Gulf war has so far been financially rewarding to Ted Turner, the former yachtsman turned television chief, whose 24-hour all-news station, CNN, has given unprecedented coverage of hostilities. Wall Street is betting that unlike the Chinese revolution, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the San Francisco earthquake, CNN might be able to hang on to a mass audience when peace breaks out and then put up its advertising rates. The optimism has given a boost to Turner's share price and added $250 million to the personal fortune of the 51-year-old now seen constantly escorting former anti-war demonstrator, actress Jane Fonda.

War films

HOLLYWOOD was never noted for its good taste. The second league film makers there are already preparing scripts and footage for desert movies of the war in the Gulf. Actor Rob Lowe, a former amateur video star, is the handsome face in the renamed *Desert Shield* where Iraq is now the enemy of American underwater commandos sent in to knock out chemical weapons dumps. The film should be ready for the Cannes film festival in May. And Roger Corman, who has a string of soft pornographic movies to his name, has moved a Libyan attempt to destroy Israel to an Iraqi plot and renamed *Shield of Honor, Desert Storm.* The female Central Intelligence Agency agent, instead of heading for Tripoli, is now heading for Baghdad.

PHILIP ROBINSON

British Gas Advises its Firm Contract Customers of a Price Amendment.

The Initial Block Prices in Schedules FI4, MT2 and ST2 introduced in October 1990 as modified in November 1990 are amended as shown below.

1. SCHEDULES FI4, MT2 AND ST2 – 1 OCTOBER 1990.
With effect from the meter reading date on or nearest to 1st October 1990; the Initial Block Price is reduced from 40.96p/therm to 37.96p/therm.

2. SCHEDULES FI4, MT2 AND ST2 – 1 NOVEMBER 1990.
With effect from the meter reading date on or nearest to 1st November 1990; the Initial Block Price is reduced from 42.42p/therm to 39.42p/therm.

British Gas will apply the revised prices retrospectively for new and renewed contracts taken out from 1st October 1990. All other conditions within the Schedule remain the same except for the following option.

Where, on renewal of a firm gas Schedule price contract on or after 1st October 1990, the customers average Scheduled price of gas in accordance with Schedule FI4 (1st October 1990) based on the nominated consumption and number of premises specified in the expiring contract would have been more than 10% higher than the average Scheduled price of gas for an equivalent contract under Schedule FI3 (1st March 1990), the customer has the option of applying to British Gas for details of a price adjustment procedure which is designed on an average basis to phase such higher increase for payment over the period of one year. Such price arrangements will not apply beyond 1st September 1992. This will not take account of any other price changes other than that introduced on 1st October 1990.

British Gas

British Gas plc, Registered Office; 152 Grosvenor Road, London SW1V 3JL Registered in England under number 2006000

Harlin under pressure

JOHN Elliott's Harlin Holdings is under increased pressure because a Foster's Brewing Group refinancing package will contain covenants barring the payment of capital returns or abnormal dividends. Such payments would help ease Harlin's crippling debt burden as its only asset is its holding in Foster's.

Caledonia buys

Caledonia Investments is to buy 75 per cent of Laurwood, an investment management company, from Laurentian Financial Group, and 10 per cent in British Empire Securities and General Trust, a listed investment trust, for £6.1 million from Laurentian Life.

Agencies join

Abbott Mead Vickers, the advertising agency, and BBDO Worldwide are joining forces in London. AMV is buying BBDO's London agency, and BBDO will take a stake in AMV.

Loss warning

Nedlloyd, the Dutch shipping group, warned shareholders to expect a loss of between 125 million guilders and Fl150 million (£45 million) for the last financial year.

Norsk improves

Norsk Data, the Norwegian computer firm, reduced pretax losses from 417 million Norwegian Kr(£36.5 million) to Kr129 last year.

STOCK MARKET

Next dips amid talk of sale to German group

SHARES in Next, the ailing fashion retailer, spent another volatile session amid growing City speculation that the group is contemplating a major corporate move.

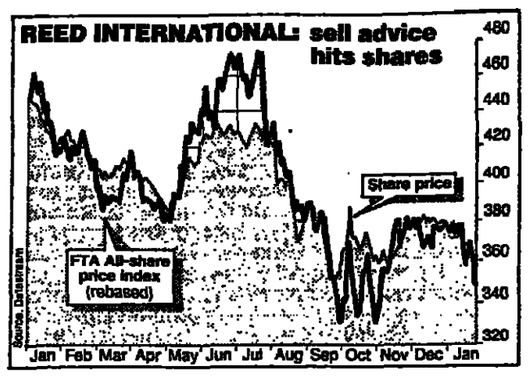
The price touched 19p as 14 million shares changed hands in hectic trading. But despite the high level of turnover, the price ended the session 1p lower at 16p.

Stories have been circulating for weeks that Next intends to sell its Grattan mail order business and the *Next Directory* to Sears, the Selfridges and Freemans retailer. There was also talk yesterday that Otto Versand, the German mail order group, was prepared to offer up to 35p a share in order to win control of Grattan. But such a bid would also saddle the Germans with debts of about £320 million, including the group's convertible preference share issue, which falls due in 1992.

Next has debts of £300 million relating to its Club 24 finance business. This week, Littlewoods announced plans to sell its mail order business, with Otto Versand tipped as a potential buyer.

Next has been unavailable for comment, raising speculation that it is holding talks with its bankers.

Elsewhere among the retailers, Ratners, the jeweller, fell 11p to 141p after announcing plans to make write-offs totalling £187 million. Worries about escalating costs have also upset the City in recent weeks.



Boots held steady at 320p despite a £20 million reduction to £380 million in the current year profit forecast of Laing & Cruickshank, the broker. It blames dull performances from Payless DIY and Halfords, which Boots acquired with Ward White.

The rest of the equity market spent another nervous session, with share prices losing early gains despite a firmer start to trading on Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index ended 1.1 points down at 2,080.5 having been almost 12 points higher at one stage. Dealers said the rise was mostly futures led, with prices being squeezed higher as only 353 million shares were traded.

Falls have been restricted by the absence of sellers, while attempts by market-makers to maintain level positions means that conditions are likely to remain volatile. Talk of a large buy programme carried out by UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker, was not reflected in turnover levels. The FT Index of 30 shares eased 2.4 to 1,628.2.

Government securities lost ground on the back of a weaker pound to end with losses at the longer end stretching to £¼. Sentiment was also hit by the surprise news that the £500 million tap stock offer of Treasury 10 per cent 1997 had been undersubscribed.

A series of downgradings saw shares in **Reed International**, the publishing group, fall 9p to 351p. Chris Munro, a publishing analyst at Hoare Govett, is concerned that the eagerly awaited advertising recovery will not occur in the second half of the year, but towards the last quarter of the current year or early next year. Most analysts, including those at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, have downgraded their forecasts to about £250 million in the current year and £260 million next year.

GKN fell 14p to 299p after a profits downgrading by Nomura Securities.

Electricity shares continued to attract selective support amid claims from some brokers that the sector is due for a re-rating. **Eastern** rose 2½p to 146½p, **East Midland** 1½p to 151½p, **London** 2½p to 154½p, **Manweb** ½p to 174½p, **Midland** 2p to 146p, **Northern** 3p to 157p, **Norweb** 2p to 156p, **Seeboard** 3p to 146p, **Southern** 1p to 150p, **South West** 1p to 163p, and **Yorkshire** 5p to 172p.

Shares in **Bardon Group** returned from suspension 6p cheaper at 88p.

MICHAEL CLARK

WALL STREET

Strength of bonds helps lift Dow

New York

SHARES were firm in morning trading, helped by a firm bond market. Investors remained cautious and focused on developments in the Gulf. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 1.24 points at 2,604.46 as gaining shares led declining issues by five to three.

☐ **Tokyo** – Shares closed lower after uncertainties over the war in the Middle East made for another day of extremely thin trade. The Nikkei index closed down 203.55 points at 23,050.10, with 250 million shares traded.

☐ **Hong Kong** – Prices closed higher on buying led from overseas. The Hang Seng index climbed 28.32 points to 3,090.40.

☐ **Singapore** – Uncertainty over the war in the Middle East saw shares close broadly lower in thin trading. The Straits Times industrial index declined 9.58 points to close at 1,200.26.

☐ **Sydney** – The All-Ordinaries index closed 6.4 points lower at 1,263.8.

☐ **Frankfurt** – The Dax index ended 16.36 points lower at 1,358.76. *(Reuter)*

	Jan 23 midday	Jan 22 close
Abbott Lab	42¼	41¾
Aetna Life	38¾	38¾
Ahmanson	14¼	13¾
Air Prods	56⅝	56¼
Albertsons	37¾	37¾
Alcan Al	19⅞	20
Alco Stand	33⅛	33¼
Allied Signal	28	27¾
Alumin CA	58⅜	58¾
Am Brands	39¾	39¾
Am Cyanmid	51	51
Am EPC	27¾	27½
Am General	32	31⅝
Am Home	49⅝	49¾
Am Intl	78½	77¾
Am Medical	4¾	4¾
Am Stores	59⅝	59½
Amax	21⅜	21½
Amer Hess	43⅜	42¾
Ameritech	62⅝	65
Amax	20¾	20⅞
Amoco	48¾	48¾
AMP	45¾	46
AMR	51⅝	52
Anheuser-B	43¾	43¾
Apple Comp	51⅝	51⅛
Archer-Dan	18⅝	19⅛
Arida	18⅞	17¾
Armstrong	24	23⅞
Asarco	28⅝	28¾
Ashland Oil	30¾	30¾
AT&T	30¾	30¾
Atlan Richfld	116⅝	114¾
Auto DP	56⅝	56⅛
Avery Intl	19¾	19⅝
Avon Prod	30⅝	29⅝
Baltimore	28⅛	28⅛
Banc One	28⅝	28⅜
Bankamerica	25¾	25⅝
Bard	16⅝	16¾
Barnett Bl	17⅜	18
Bausch Lmb	55⅝	56
Baxter Intl	28¾	28¾
Bec Dickin	70¼	69⅞
Bell Atlan	48	50
Bellsouth	52¼	50⅞
Bir Hughes	23¾	23⅜
Black Decker	8⅜	8¾
Block	45¾	44¾
Boise Tst NY	45¾	44½
Boeing	47¾	47¾
Bolse Casc	25⅝	25⅝
Borden	29¾	29¾
Brist-Myer	57¾	58⅜
Browng-Fer	20⅝	20⅝
Burl Nth	28	28
CAI	8⅜	8⅜
Campbell Sp	58⅝	59⅜
Cap Cities	421½	419¾
Capital HC	39¾	38¾
Carolina	45⅝	45¾
Caterpillar	43¾	42⅝
CBS	153¾	157⅛
Central SW	45	45
Champion	25¼	25⅝
Chase Man	11⅞	11⅝
Chem Bnkg	12¾	12⅝
Chevron	73¾	72
Chrysler	13	12⅝
Clubb	57¾	56¾
Cigna	42¾	41
Citicorp	13½	13¾
Clorox	55⅝	54
Clorox	37¼	38⅛
Cmwlth Edis	34½	35½
CNA Finci	76½	76½
Coastal	28½	28¾
Coca-Cola	47¾	47¾
Colgate-Pal	71	70⅝
Columb Gas	43¾	43½
Compaq	60⅝	61½
Conagra	38¼	38½
Cons Edis	29½	29⅛
Cons NG	40¾	40½
Cons Rail	90¼	90
Cooper Ind	42½	42⅜
Corning	47½	47⅜
CPC Intl	74¾	75⅛
Crown Cork	60	60½
CSX	33¾	33¾
Dana	28⅝	28¾
Dayton-Hud	57¾	58½
Deere	43	43¾
Delta Air	67¾	66¾
Dexxon	34⅞	34¾
Detroit Edi	28⅝	28¾
Digital Eq	67½	65¾
Disney	86¾	83¾
Dominion	100¾	99¾
Donnelley	45¾	46⅜
Dover	41½	41¼
Dow Chem	38⅝	38¾
Dow Jones	47½	47¾
Dresser Ind	27½	26⅝
Du Pont	21¾	22⅛
Duke Pwr	35	35¼
Dun Bradst	27¾	27½
East Kodak	43½	42⅝
Eaton	39¾	39⅝
Emerson El	48¾	48⅛
Enron	40¾	40¾
Entergy	51	51⅛
Entrp Int	23¾	23½
Ethyl	24⅛	24⅞
Exxon	51¾	50⅞
Fed NMA	51¾	50⅞
Fedrl Ex Pra	39½	37
Fst Nortsar	10⅛	10⅝
Fst Union	41⅝	39
Fluor	34¾	34¾
FMC	34¾	34¾
Ford Motor	26¾	26⅝
FPL	28⅝	28¾
Fst Chicago	18⅝	18⅝
Fst Interst	26¾	25¾
Fst Union	14¾	14⅜
Gannett	38¼	38¾
Gen Cinema	20¾	19⅞
Gen Elec	57	56⅝
Gen Mills	44⅝	46⅜
Gen Motors	33¾	33
Gen RE	92	91¾
Gen Signal	38	38¼
Genentech	22⅞	22½
Genuine Pts	38	37¾
Georgia-Pac	38¾	38¾
Gillette	62⅝	61¾
Goodrich	37¾	37
Goodyear	44⅝	46⅜
Grace	25¼	25
Greyhound	27	27¼
Gt Atlantic	46¼	46¾
Gt Western	12¾	12¾
GTE	29	28⅝
Halliburn	43¾	41⅝
Hahn	33¾	33¾
Hercules	34¾	34¾
Hershey Fd	38¾	38¾
Hewlett Pkd	35¾	34¾
Hilton Htl	36¾	36⅝
Home Depot	41¼	41
Homestake	16¼	17¼
Honeywell	45¾	45¾
Houston Ind	35½	36
Howtld Intl	32¾	33¼
Humana	38¾	39
IBM	119¾	117¾
IFAF	74¾	74¾
Inands TW	49¾	49¾
Inco	25½	25¾
Ingsol-Rand	36⅝	36⅝
Inland Steel	20¾	21¼
Intel	44¼	43¾
Int Paper	55¼	55¾
ITT	48¾	48¾
James River	25¼	25¾
Johnsn Johsn	72¾	71¾
K Mart	28¾	28¾
Kellogg	78¼	78¾
Kerr-McGee	42¾	41½
Kimbly-Clrk	82½	82¾
Knight-Ridr	47¾	47¾
Lilly	77¾	76
Limited	20¼	20¾
Lin Bridcstg	61½	60¾
Lincln Nat	40¾	40¾
Linton Ind	77¾	77¾
Lockheed	37¾	37¾
Louis-Pac	29	29¾
Manu Hano	20¾	20¾
Marriott	10¾	10¾
Marsh Mclen	73¾	73¾
Martin Mar	49¾	50¾
Masco	19¾	18¾
May Dept	42¾	41¾
Maytag	11¾	11
MCA	n/a	n/a
McDnl Doug	36¾	37½
McDonalds	28¾	28¾
McGraw-Hill	53¾	53
MCI Comm	19¾	19¾
Mead	25¾	26¾
Medtronic	86¾	85¾
Mellwite	44¾	43¾
Merck	88¾	87¾
Merl Lynch	23¾	22¾
MMM	80¼	85
Mobil	57¾	56¾
Monsanto	49¼	47¾
Moore	22	21¾
Morgan	43¾	42¾
Motorola	49¾	48¾
Nat Medical	39¾	39¾
Nat Semi	5¾	5¾
Nat Service	23½	23½
Navistar	2¾	2¾
NCNB	26¾	26¾
NCR	58	58¾
NED Bncp	34¼	34⅝
Newmont Min	38	37¾
Niagr Mhwk	13¾	13¾
Nike	42¾	43¼
NL Indstrs	9¾	9½
Nordstorm	26¼	26¼
North Strn	42¾	42¾
Norwest	31½	30¾
Nthn St Pwr	33¼	33½
Nthn Telcm	25¾	26¼
NY Times	21	21½
Nynex	66⅜	66¾
Occid Petri	18	18¼
Ohio Ed	17¾	17½
Oracle Sys	5¾	5¾
Orlyr Energy	34½	34¾
Pac Enr	40¾	39¾
Pac Gas Elec	25¾	25¾
Pac Telesis	40	39
Paccar	35	34¾
Pacificorp	21½	21¾
Pall	41¾	41¾
Paramount	43¾	43¾
Parker-Hanfn	24½	24¾
Pennzoil	47¼	46¾
Penzoil	65¾	66
Pepsico	26¼	26¾
Pfizer	83¾	80¾
Phelps Pel	25¾	25¾
Phelps Elec	19¾	19¾
Philip Morris	53¾	56½
Phips Dodge	57	57¾
Pitney Bow	43¾	43¾
Pitsr Dome	14¾	14¾
PNC Fncl	21½	21¾
Pnkrtn Essn	10⅝	10¾
Polaroid	22¾	23¾
PPG Inds	45¾	45¾
Procr Gmble	79¾	80
Price	43¾	42¾
Primerica	23¾	23¾
Pub Service	26¾	26¾
Quaker Oats	52	51¾
Ralston Pur	24¾	24¾
Raychem	76½	76¾
Raytheon	12⅝	12⅝
Reebok	41	40
Roadway	27¾	27¾
Rockwell	37¾	37¾
Rohm Haas	38¾	37¾
Royal Dutch	74¾	74¾
Rubbermaid	40¾	40¾
Rynlds Mtl	56¾	55¾
Safeco	33¾	33¾
Salomon	25¾	25¾
Sant Fe Pac	8⅝	8¾
Sara Lee	33	33¾
Schercorp	37¾	37¾
Schlumbgr	56¾	55¾
Schrg-Plgh	42¾	42¾
Scott Papr	38¾	39
Seagram	85¾	85¾
Sears Rbk	26	25⅞
Secrty Pac	20¾	20¾
Shmwn-Wilms	37¾	37¾
Skylkns	16¾	16¾
Smap-on Tls	29	28¾
Southern	27¾	27¾
St Paul	60¾	60
Stanley Wk	29¾	28¾
Stone Chr	10¾	10¾
Sun Co	32¾	32¾
Sunst Bk	32¾	32¾
Super Valu	22¾	23
SW Bell	50¾	52¾
Symtex	61¾	60¾
Sysco	32½	32¾
Tandem	11¾	11¾
Tandy	27¾	27¾
Tele-comm	14	13¾
Telephone	21¾	21¾
Temple-In	34¾	35¼
Tenneco	43¾	42¾
Texaco	58¾	57¾
Texas Inst	38¾	38¾
Texas Util	36¾	36¾
Textron	58¾	58¾
Time Warnr	86½	87¾
Times Merr	29½	29
Timken	23¾	23¾
Torchmark	50	49¾
Toys R Us	25¾	25
Transam	32¾	32¾
Travelers	18	17¾
Tribune	40½	40
TRW	38¾	38¾
Tyco Lab	40¾	40¼
UAL	123½	123¾
Un Camp	37	37¼
Un Carbide	16¾	15¾
Un Pacific	72¾	72¾
Unisvar	86½	86
Unisys	2½	2½
Unocal	24½	24¾
Upjohn	37¾	37
US West	35½	37
User Gp	19¾	19¾
USF&G	8	7¾
UST	36¾	36¾
USX	28	28¼
Utd Tech	44¼	43¾
Utd Telcm	22	22¾
VF	21¾	21¾
Wal-Mart	31	31
Walgreen	53¼	52¾
Waste Mgmt	37¾	37
Wells Fargo	56	55¾
Westg Elec	26¾	25¾
Weyerhsr	22¾	22¾
Whirlpool	21¾	21½
Whittmn	19¾	19¾
Winn-Dixie	33¼	32¾
Woolworth	23¾	23¾
Wrigley	54¼	54¾
Wrner-Lamb	69¾	69
Xerox	43¼	41¾

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	2,439	Cadbury	348	L&G	299	Royal Bnk	2,228
Allid-Lyons	634	CU	251	Lloyds	1,271	Royal Ins	515
Anglian	443	Courtaulds	93	Lonmho	1,880	Sainsbury	1,066
ASDA	4,802	Dalgety	9	Lucas	2,643	Scot & N	1,430
AB Foods	259	Enterprise	247	M&S	1,138	Sears	1,439
Argyll	1,588	Eurotunnel	645	Maxwell Cm	601	Severn Trnt	1,710
BAA	3,035	Fisons	955	MEPC	1,024	Shell	1,921
BET	1,298	Gen Acc	294	Midland	1,187	Smth & N	1,677
BTR	1,532	GEC	12,414	Nat West	1,918	Sk Beech	1,557
BAT	731	Glaxo	989	N W Water	101	Sun Allnce	772
Barclays	3,163	Grand Met	1,779	P&O	503	Tarmac	614
Bass	411	GUS 'A'	290	Pearson	220	Tate Lyle	1,982
BICC	533	GRE	2,031	Pilkington	988	TSB	1,511
Bk Scotlnd	1,200	GKN	781	Prudential	2,952	Tesco	1,595
Blue Circle	1,325	Guinness	824	Racal	3,936	Thames Wtr	362
BOC	1,087	Hamm 'A'	91	Rk Hovis	829	Thorn EMI	494
Boots	1,644	Hanson	1,552	Rank	1,111	Trafalgar	3,576
Br Aero	1,535	H & C	718	R&C	234	THF	2,597
Br Airways	4,505	Hawker	434	Redland	1,055	Ultramar	604
Br Gas	1,545	Hillsdown	1,678	Reed	2,680	Unilever	593
Br Petrol	6,422	ICI	1,178	Reuters	129	United Bs	542
Br Steel	2,174	Kingfisher	786	RMC Gp	287	Wellcome	732
Br Telecm	2,067	Lasmo	881	RTZ	1,400	Whtbrd	425
Burmah Cst	19	Ladbroke	1,829	R-Royce	1,194	Wlc Teabe	873
C&W	888	Land Sec	532	Rothmn 'B'	134	Willis Cor	864

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

JA Devenish	145p (+5p)
Grand Met	654½p (+5p)
Scot & Newcastle	349½p (+9p)
Hardys & Hansons	887½p (+6p)
Steetley	325½p (+7p)
Pearson	620p (+10p)
Abbott Mead	207½p (+13p)

FALLS:

Bardon Group	87p (–7p)
Wace	190½p (–10p)
Greenall Whitley	293p (–10p)
P Bilton	325p (–15p)
Bourne End	57½p (–21p)
J Mowlem	238½p (–13p)
Rainers Group	140½p (–11p)
Blenheim Group	580p (–10p)
News Corp	180p (–10p)
Reed Int	351p (–8p)
Shell	424½p (–6p)
J Smurfit	440p (–13p)
Chesterfield	482½p (–17p)

Closing prices

MAJOR INDICES

New York:

Dow Jones	2616.34 (+13.12)*
S&P Composite	329.99 (+1.68)*

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	23050.10 (–203.55)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	3090.40 (+28.32)

FT-SE Eurotrack 925.85 (–5.88)

Amsterdam:

CBS Tendency	77.9 (+0.2)
Sydney: AO	1263.8 (–6.3)
Frankfurt: DAX	1358.76 (–16.36)

Brussels:

General	4793.22 (–36.27)
Paris: CAC	410.90 (–1.26)
Zurich: SKA Gen	447.3 (+4.8)

London:

FT–A All-Share	996.23 (–0.58)
FT–"500"	1098.18 (–0.51)
FT. Gold Mines	152.7 (–1.6)
FT. Fixed interest	91.53 (+0.03)
FT. Govt Secs	84.02 (+0.02)
Bargains	23868
SEAQ Volume	353.1m
USM (Datastream)	111.16 (+1.27)

*Denotes latest trading price

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr Cos	95
Brabant Res	145
CMW Group	26
Castle Cairn (50p)	30
ECU Tst	38
EPM Java Tst	35
Ebos	91
Excalibur Gp	44
Faber Prest	145
Golden Vale	48
Invergordon	140 +2
Lewercrest	92
MMI	19
Malaysia Capital	99½
Midland Radio	94
Paramount	9½
Pelican Gp	16
Proteus Intl	80
Seton Healthcare	146
St James Place	59
Smaller IT	61 –1
Stand Platform	150
Tr Euro Gwth	79 –1
Trio Inv Tst	43
Utd Energy	1½
Utd Uniform	92
Unichem	114 –1
Wig Tpe App	177

● *See main prices page for Electricity shares*

RIGHTS ISSUES

Lon Intl Nj/P	2 +½
Lon & New York Nj/P	¼

(Issue price in brackets).

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
83, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL Tel: 0345 717373 (Linkline)				
Gilt/Fixed	112.3	119.2e	+0.2	9.65
High Inc Equity	114.8	122.1e	–0.9	5.20
Wrldwide Bond	194.3	206.6e	–0.6	3.22
Amer Growth	151.0	160.6e	–1.4	1.20
Asian Pacific	95.13	101.2e	–0.76	0.35
Assets/Earns	141.4	151.2	–0.9	3.58
Capit Red	101.4	107.5	–0.58	7.69
Comm/Energy	67.23	71.50	+0.20	1.38
Euro Capit	75.49	80.73	–0.35	1.42
General	142.2	152.0e	–0.8	3.29
Japan	80.82	86.43	–0.66	0.00
UK Gth Inc	82.84	88.53	–0.45	5.02
Do Acc	128.1	137.0	–0.7	3.22
US Emerg Cos	45.83	47.90	–0.05	0.00
Income/Gth	253.1	270.6	–1.5	3.76
Nautilus Acc	73.98	79.12	–0.33	3.25
Am Inc	39.43	42.17e	–0.20	6.50
Emrgt	40.19	42.96	–0.14	2.33
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
10, Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. Tel: 0224 633676 dealing (Freephone) 0800 833566				
35, Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7DQ Tel: 071-374 6801				
Am Inc/Gth	23.78	25.28	–0.15	3.16
Euro	82.31	66.08e	–0.52	0.00
Euro Inc	66.78	70.35	–0.25	1.74
Exempt	548.5	570.6e	–3.4	3.46
Extra Inc	34.54	36.99e	–0.09	6.73
F/E Emrg Eq	37.95	40.62	–0.36	1.57
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS				
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL. Tel: 0793 514514 dealing 0793 512369				
High Inc	298.1	315.3	–1.0	6.10
Income	163.7	173.1	–0.6	6.46
High Yield	153.3	160.5	–0.3	6.84
Balanced	437.6	466.0e	–0.7	4.28
Am Inc	28.74	28.47e	+0.25	4.57
World Ass Val	25.72	27.35	::	1.26
Japan	112.7	118.2	+0.4	0.00
Sec of Am	218.5	232.7	+1.8	0.54
BARCLAYS UNICORN				
Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7 Tel: 081-534 5544				
Capit	76.60	82.39	–0.65	4.51
Euro Gth Inc	79.15	84.43	–0.53	2.01
Euro Inc	61.22	65.34	–0.43	4.09
General	167.1	178.7	–1.4	4.77
Gt/Fxd Income	49.57	51.40	+0.06	10.76
Inc Trust	361.6	386.7e	–3.2	7.31
BARING FUND MANAGERS				
PO Box 188, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ Tel: 081-658 3000				
Amer Gth	47.42	50.29e	–0.26	1.10
Am Sm Cos	51.58	54.48	–0.16	1.00
Australian	44.14	47.30	–0.33	4.45
Convertible	35.89	39.99e	–0.01	8.40
Cont	97.83	105.1	–0.75	1.20
Equity Inc	61.08	66.05	–0.47	6.50
Euro Cos	133.5	143.0	–1.0	2.20
Euro Smlr Cos	133.5	142.7	–1.3	0.20
Exempt	57.45	59.39e	::	4.30
German Gth	39.44	42.01	–0.41	0.00
Global Gth	60.89	64.87	–0.28	0.10
Jap Gth	127.3	136.0e	–0.6	0.00
Jap Sunrise	108.4	113.4	–0.5	0.00
Portfolio	80.28	83.66	–0.27	3.50
Pac Acc	139.2	139.9	–0.4	1.40
UK Growth	44.50	48.45	–0.32	4.90
UK Smlr Cos	54.19	60.64	–0.27	3.50
Select Man Fd	44.65	47.91	–0.20	2.00
BROWN SHIPLEY				
9-17, Ferrymount Rd, Haywards Heath Tel: 0444 458744				
Financial	96.84	103.1	–0.36	5.53
Smlr Cos Acc	157.2	167.4	–0.8	0.60
Do Inc	94.99	101.2	–0.42	2.54
High Inc	96.91	89.29	–0.56	8.47
Income	82.40	85.87	–0.39	6.37
Select Portf Inc	89.84	70.56e	–0.15	5.34
Do Acc	122.4	131.2e	–0.4	2.20
Nth Amer	92.34	98.64e	–0.17	0.39
Orient	83.29	88.70	–0.89	0.39
Recpnt	240.4	255.2	–1.1	5.12
Recov	27.86	29.76	–0.24	3.24
Sentan	31.86	34.10	–0.04	0.12
Ind Recov	21.99	23.42	–0.10	0.29
Europe	17.77	19.15	–0.08	0.39
Conv Quart	16.50	17.57e	–0.10	9.99
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT				
Beaufort Hse 15 St Botolph St London EC3A 7JJ Tel: 071-247 6942 Dealing 01-247 7676				
Fellowship Inc	47.12	50.15	+0.06	8.05
Inc Fund 3	132.0	138.9	–0.3	8.40
Do Acc 3	273.5	290.3	–0.7	6.40
Stock Inc 5	72.57	77.56e	–0.06	4.29
Do Acc	83.08	88.06	–0.09	4.29
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
117 Fenchurch Street London EC3M 5AL Tel: 071-488 7216				
Stk Ut Fnd Inc	60.58	61.85	+0.03	2.70
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
PO Box 168 Manchester M60 0AH Tel: 061-837 3000				
Environ	80.75	85.91e	–0.47	3.15
UK Growth	93.42	99.36e	–0.79	3.41
UK Income	92.16	98.07	–1.04	6.79
CANNON FUND MANAGERS				
1, Olympic Way, Wembley Middx HA9 0NB Tel: 081-902 8876				
SE Asia	39.60	42.87	–0.52	2.67
Growth	32.27	34.51e	–0.26	0.05
Income	39.98	42.76e	–0.29	7.47
Far East	31.50	33.68e	–0.11	1.35
Intl Amer	34.37	36.76e	+0.06	1.26
Global	43.26	46.27	–0.34	0.01
European	54.88	58.37	–0.18	1.90
Japan	51.77	57.45	–0.38	0.01
Strategic Opp	37.51	40.22	–0.29	4.99
Intl Currency	45.19	47.92	+0.07	6.06
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M22AF Tel Enquiries 061-236 5685 Dealings 061-236 5252				
Capability Trusts				
Am & Gen	68.48	70.73	–0.59	1.23
Do Acc	70.36	74.06	–1.02	1.23
European	49.89	52.77	–0.43	1.92
Do Acc	50.74	53.98	–0.44	1.92
F East/Gen	41.93	44.81	+0.18	0.00
Do Acc	41.93	44.81	+0.18	0.00
Gianttrers	184.2	196.0	–1.0	3.06
Do Acc	197.7	210.4	–1.0	3.06
Growth	240.2	255.6	–0.4	4.32
Do Acc	255.5	411.2	–0.7	4.32
Inc 50th Inc	372.7	390.2e	+2.0	5.28
Do Acc	331.8	353.0e	+2.5	5.28
Master Portf	508.90	73.15e	–0.46	4.23
Do Acc	276.60	80.86e

هكذا من الأصل

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated.If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Severn Trent	Water	
2	Unigate	Foods	
3	Transport Dev	Transport	
4	Bunzl	Paper,Print,Adv	
5	UK Land	Property	
6	Wimpey G	Building,Roads	
7	Hardys & Hansons	Breweries	
8	BAT	Tobaccos	
9	Calor Gp	Oil,Gas	
10	Br Aerospace	Motors,Aircraft	
11	Devenish (JA)	Breweries	
12	Land Sec	Property	
13	Macarthy	Industrials L-R	
14	BOC	Industrials A-D	
15	Smith WH 'A'	Drapery,Stores	
16	Racal Elect	Electricals	
17	Kwik Save	Foods	
18	Granada	Industrials E-K	
19	Tate & Lyle	Foods	
20	BICC	Electricals	
21	Lloyds	Banks,Discount	
22	FR Group	Motors,Aircraft	
23	Grand Met	Breweries	
24	Rechem	Industrials L-R	
25	Blue Circle	Building,Roads	
26	Hepworth	Industrials E-K	
27	Glaxo	Industrials E-K	
28	Argyll (as)	Foods	
29	Westpac	Banks,Discount	
30	South West	Water	
31	BPB Ind	Building,Roads	
32	Wessex Water	Water	
33	Sketchley	Building,Roads	
34	Triplex Lloyd	Industrials S-Z	
35	Kwik-Fit	Motors,Aircraft	
36	Logica	Electricals	
37	De La Rue	Industrials A-D	
38	Sthrn Water	Water	
39	Molins	Industrials L-R	
40	P & O Def	Transport	
41	Bowater	Industrials A-D	
42	Baynes (Charles)	Industrials A-D	
43	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	Building,Roads	
44	Yorkshire Water	Water	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Two readers shared the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mr V Ransom, of Gosport, Hampshire, and Mr Edward Peacock, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, each receive £1,000.

BRITISH FUNDS

1990/91 High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	Int cover %	Gross Red yield %

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

97⅝	89⅝	Treas 9%	1991	97⅝	..	9.06 10.855
99⅝	93⅝	Fund 5¾%	1987-91	99⅝	..	5.8 11.749
97	97⅝	Treas 9%	1991	96⅝	..	8.2 11.784
99⅝	94⅛	Treas C 10%	1991	99	..	10.1 12.341
99⅝	99⅜	Exch 11%	1991	99⅜	..	11.9 12.022
99⅝	93⅝	Treas 11¾%	1991	99⅝		
93⅝	87⅝	Treas 9%	1992	91⅝	..	9.27 9.521
96⅝	95⅞	Treas 9%	1992	96⅝	..	8.3 11.541
98⅝	95⅝	Treas 10%	1992	98⅝	● ..	10.1 11.874
99⅝	95⅝	Treas C10¼%	1992	98⅝	● ..	10.6 11.940
101⅝	98	Exch 12¾%	1992	101	● ..	12.1 11.986
101⅝	93⅝	Treas 12¾%	1992	100⅝	..	12.5 11.858
105⅝	101⅛	Exch 13¾%	1992	103	..	13.1 11.497
82⅝	81⅛	Fund 6%	1993	90	..	8.68 10.366
99⅛	89⅝	Treas 8¼%	1993	97⅝	● ..	8.79 11.144
98⅝	89⅝	Treas 10%	1993	97⅝	..	10.2 11.068
103⅝	93⅝	Treas 12¾%	1993	103⅜	..	12.1 10.954
107⅜	94	Treas 13¾%	1993	106⅝	..	12.9 11.251
94	84⅝	Treas 8¼%	1994	93⅝	..	8.8 11.039
94⅝	82⅝	Treas 8%	1994	84⅛	..	9.5 10.768
98⅝	84	Treas 10%	1994	97⅝	..	10.2 10.765
105	94⅜	Treas 12¾%	1994	104⅝	● ..	11.9 10.853
107⅜	96⅛	Exch 13¾%	1994	106⅝	..	12.6 10.875
107⅜	96⅛	Treas 14¼%	1994	106⅝	● ..	13.2 10.786
87	72⅝	Gas 3%	1990-95	83	..	4.07 10.766
98⅝	88	Exch 10¼%	1995	98⅝	● ..	10.4 10.735
104⅜	94⅛	Treas 12%	1995	104⅝	..	11.9 10.728
107⅜	94⅛	Treas 12¾%	1995	107⅝	..	11.8 10.737

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

84⅛	82⅝	Treas 9%	1992-96	84⅛	..	9.58 10.800
97⅛	83⅝	Conv 10%	1996	97⅝	+⅛	10.2 10.666
110⅝	98	Exch 13¾%	1996	108⅝	..	12.0 10.761
112⅜	100⅜	Treas 14%	1996	112⅝	..	12.5 10.961
119⅛	107⅛	Treas 15¾%	1996	117⅝	+⅛	13.9 10.855
91⅞	79⅝	Treas 8¾%	1997	91⅜	+⅛	9.5 10.473
99⅝	87⅜	Exch 10¾%	1997	99⅝	● ..	10.5 10.653
111⅝	98⅝	Treas 12¾%	1997	110⅞	+⅛	11.9 10.719
120⅞	106⅜	Exch 15%	1997	119⅝	+⅛	12.5 10.841
89⅝	88	Treas 8¾%	1995-98	88⅜	..	8.18 10.698
98⅝	89⅜	Treas 9½%	1998	98⅛	+⅛	10.1 10.548
107⅜	96⅜	Exch 12%	1998	107⅝	..	11.1 10.698
126	107⅝	Treas 15¼%	1998	124⅞	..	12.4 10.698
95⅝	82	Treas 9¼%	1999	95⅝	..	9.56 10.552
99⅝	81⅝	Conv 10¾%	1999	99⅝	..	10.4 10.489
108⅝	94⅛	Exch 12¼%	1999	108⅝	..	11.2 10.823
92⅝	78⅝	Conv 9%	2000	92⅝	..	8.7 10.291
114⅝	99⅝	Treas 13%	2000	113⅝	..	11.5 10.552
97⅛	99⅝	Treas 10%	2001	97⅞	● ..	10.2 10.412
116⅝	97⅛	Treas 14%	1998-01	116	..	12.0 10.775
95⅝	81⅛	Treas 9¼%	2002	95⅝	..	10.1 10.368
98⅝	83⅛	Treas 10%	2003	97⅛	..	10.2 10.317
116⅝	100	Treas 13¾%	2000-03	117⅝	● ..	11.6 10.741
88¼	45⅛	Fund 3½%	1999-04	58	..	6.2 9.326
95⅝	79⅜	Conv 9¾%	2004	94⅝	..	10.0 10.258
105⅝	89⅜	Treas 11¾%	2001-04	103⅝	..	10.8 10.269
95⅛	79⅜	Conv 9¼%	2005	94⅛	..	10.0 10.247
118⅝	95⅞	Treas 12¾%	2003-05	115¾	..	10.8 10.354

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

84⅛	69⅝	Treas 8%	2002-06	82⅝	..	9.6 10.245
89⅝	73⅝	Treas 8¾%	2007	87⅝	..	9.7 10.152
111	93⅝	Treas 11¾%	2003-07	109⅝	..	10.7 10.335
99⅛	77⅝	Treas 9%	2008	91⅝	..	9.8 9.997
125	105⅛	Treas 13½%	2004-08	122⅝	..	11.5 10.338
85⅛	69⅝	Treas 8%	2009	83	..	9.6 10.024
94	77⅜	Conv 9%	2011	91⅛	..	9.8 10.007
89⅝	69⅝	Treas 8%	2008-12	81	..	9.8 9.834
89⅝	69⅝	Treas 8%	2012-15	79⅝	● -⅛	9.7 10.050
121⅛	98⅛	Exch 12%	2013-17	118	..	10.2 10.015

UNDATED

29⅝	28⅝	Consols 3½%		29⅝		
61⅛	54⅛	Conv 4%		56⅝	..	6.9 —
33⅛	33⅛	Consols 4%		39	..	.. —
28⅝	28⅝	Treas 2½%		28⅝	..	.. —
35⅝	28⅝	Treas 3%		32⅝	..	.. —
36⅝	36⅝	War Ln 3½%		34⅝	..	.. —

INDEX-LINKED

125%	110	Treas IL 2%	1992	128⅝	
116%	108%	Treas IL 2%	1994	116⅝	
171⅛	150⅝	Treas IL 2%	1996	170⅝	
140⅛	122⅝	Treas IL 2½%	2001	139⅝	
136⅛	119⅝	Treas IL 2½%	2003	134⅝	
137⅝	122	Treas IL 2%	2006	136⅝	
137	115⅜	Treas IL 2½%	2009	135⅝	
131⅛	117⅝	Treas IL 2½%	2011	129⅝	
108⅝	97⅝	Treas IL 2½%	2013	106⅝	● ●
116⅛	106⅝	Treas IL 2½%	2016	114⅝	● ●
112⅝	103⅝	Treas IL 2½%	2020	110⅝	● ●
95⅞	88	Treas IL 2½%	2024	92⅝	● ●

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
173	138	Abbey National	238	239	-2	8.4	3.7	12.3
135	126	Allied Irish	127	128	-1	3.5	5.5	17.3
121	90	Ansbacher (Henry)	134	136	+1	—	—	—
130	110	Bank of Ireland	147	148		21	14.2	—
130	110	Bank of Scotland	146	147		21	14.3	—
346	280	Barclays	345	346		28.6	8.3	9.1
195	150	Brown Shipley	155	160		10.7	6.7	9.4
295	225	Cater Allen	257	261	+1	4.9	1.9	6.1
145	125	Cattles	140	145		—	—	—
1	1	Chancery	—	—		—	—	—
295	240	Charles Stanley	—	—		—	—	—
255	205	Close Bros	255	265	-2	10.7	4.3	12.9
2800	2600	Coutts	—	—		—	—	—
155	125	Cumberland	—	—		17.3	11.3	8.4
215	175	Dunbar Bk Fin	215	219		15.9	7.4	8.8
142	115	Edinburgh Mtge	142	148		7.1	4.9	8.9
315	265	Exeter Trust	315	325		25.5	8.4	14.0
1	1	Gerrard Nat	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Guinness Mahon	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hambros	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hill Samuel	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hoares (J)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Kleinwort Ben	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Lazards	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Lloyds	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Lon Scot Bk	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Midland	—	—		24.9	15.1	—
1	1	Nat Aust Bk	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Nat West	—	—		23.3	—	—
1	1	Provident	—	—		8.7	2.8	15.4
1	1	Rea Bros	—	—		—	—	—

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Early gains lost

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 14. Dealings end Friday. §Contango day Monday. Settlement day February 4.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

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DAILY DIVIDEND
£2,000
Claims required for +37 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BREWERIES

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
528	468	Allied-Lyons	497	498	+4	22.4	4.5	10.1
11½	8⅝	Bass (ss)	10½	10⅝		0.2	2.5	15.4
179	139	Bellhaven	139	153		7.2	5.2	13.6
227	180	Bulmer (H P)	182	186		10.6	5.8	11.2
147	110	Burtonwood Brew	110	118		5.5	4.7	16.4
490	380	Clark (Matthew)	380	390		18.8	4.8	15.4
288	175	Dewhirst (JA)	142	148	+5	7.1	4.8	8.9
1	1	Fosters Brewing Gp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Grand Met	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Greene King	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Guinness	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hardys & Hansons	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Highland Dist	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Marstons	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Morgan Thompson	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Morland	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	SA Brewries	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Shot & Nev	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Vaux Group	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Whitbread 'A'	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Do 'B'	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wolverhmptn & D	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Young 'A'	—	—		—	—	—

BUILDING, ROADS

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
130	59	Abbey	65	66		13.5	6.7	6.7
194	159	Amec	193	197		—	—	—
1	1	Argyle Sec	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Arlington	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Atlantic	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Balfour Beatty	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Barratt Dev	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bellway	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bellwinch	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bennetley Gp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Berkeley Hmp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Blue Circle	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bovis (Henry)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Brandon PLC	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Br Dredging	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bryant	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	CALA	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	CRH	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Caledonian Roberg	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Carter Gp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Carson PLC	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Costain	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Countryside	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Cr Eve Nicholson	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Cosby Jarvis	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Crean & Boome	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Crouch Group	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Cruden Hldgs	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Cumbrd Hldgs	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Dawson Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Dick	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Ellis & Everard	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	European Colour	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Evered	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fairclough (James)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fairclough DMSO	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fairview Estate Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fayrepair	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fitzpatrick	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Galliford	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Glanvill (WJ)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hawtin-Short	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Heywood Williams	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Higgs & Hill	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	How Gp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Howard Hldgs	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hubbck Johnson	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Jarvis	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Laing (J)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Lawrence (Walter)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Lilley	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Lovell (YJ)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Mansions	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Marley	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Marshalls	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Merchants (J)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	McAlpine (Alfred)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	McAlpine (Sir E)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Meyer Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Morrison (John)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	NSM	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Norman Tonks	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Norwest Hldgs	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Phoenix Timber	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Pochins	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Pommeroy	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Ready Mix Conc	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Rmc Gp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Rotec Ltd	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Redland	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Rugby Group	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Sharpe & Fisher	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Shepherd Ind	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Stanley	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tarmac	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tilbury	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tilley Howes	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Taylor Woodrow	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tolsley Group	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Turriff	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wates	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Westbrick Ind	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Whessoe	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Whitecroft	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wilcon Homes	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wilkinson Hldgs	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wimpey G	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wimpey Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wimpey Hmes	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wimpey Office	—	—		—	—	—

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
173	108	Allied Colloids	124	127	-1	4.9	3.4	12.2
401	245	Amersham	260	267		15.7	5.5	18.4
91	69	Anglo Ind	85	89		3.9	5.2	7.2
165	121	BTR	150	153	-4	10.7	7.0	11.3
1	1	Bayer DMSO	—	—	-2½	—	—	—
1	1	Bayer Chem	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bayer Gr Farma	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bowling (W)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Brent Chem	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Brit & Everard	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	European Colour	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Evode	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fairchild (James)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fairchild DMSO	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fisons Scien Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hickson	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Holliday Chem	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Imperial Chem	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Inspec	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Lancs Polishing	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Laporte	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Lebus	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Mallek Hydro	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Norsk	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Rentokil	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Scientific Spectrum	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tilbury	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tioxide Stones Pic	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Whitworth-Jones	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Yorkshire Chem	—	—		—	—	—
138	78	Yule Catto	95	96	+2	4.3	4.5	11.6

DRAPERY, STORES

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
514	382	Alexon	445	450	-5	19.8	4.3	10.6
354	259	Amber Day	268	269		27.1	4.4	15.0
270	191	Argos Plc	258	259		5.3	2.1	17.3
1	1	Arnotts (Lond)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Aurum (Lond)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bonds (Lond) 'A'	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Body Shop	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Boots	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Brown & Jackson	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Burton (M)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Carpets 'A'	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Combe Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Comyns	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Currys	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Dawson Hldgs	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Debenhams	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Dixons	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Empire Stores	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Etam	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fine Art Dev	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Fred Earn Tiles	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Formfitter	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Gent Sh	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Goldsmiths Group	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	GUS	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Do 'A'	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Harrisons	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Henry Pic	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hepworth Pic	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hodgson Robinson plc	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	House Of Lorens	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Kingsley Vert	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Leslie Wise Gp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Liberty	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Marks Spencer	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Matalan (Jack)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Moss Bros	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Next	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Do 'A'	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Peacock	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Pentos	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Reeves Sons	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Sears	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Shoe Zone	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Stanley Morrison	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Storehouse	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	T & S Stores	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tie Rack	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Time Products	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Vitec	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wades	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Wilding Office	—	—		—	—	—

ELECTRICITY

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
154	118	East Midlands	151	152	+1	20.1	13.3	6.0
169	130	Eastern Elect	174	175	+2½	19.3	11.0	6.4
157	120	London Elect	174	175	+2½	19.3	11.0	6.4
180	140	Midlands	174	175	+2½	19.3	11.0	6.4
151	115	Northern Elec	174	175	+2½	19.3	11.0	6.4
158	120	Norweb	157	158	+1	19.3	12.2	6.4
151	100	Scottard	145	147	+1	19.3	13.1	6.4
178	130	SW Wales	173	177	+1	21.3	12.1	6.4
168	130	Seeboard	161	163	+1	19.3	11.8	6.4
1	1	Southern Elec	145	147	+1	19.3	13.1	6.4
179p	160	Yorkshire Elec	171	173	+1	19.3	11.2	6.4
£150SE1000		Package Unit	£1558		+£15			

FINANCE, LAND

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
322	284	Abbeycroft	288	305		20	6.7	13.5
61	25	Allen Harvey	45	50		4.31	8.5	—
138	68	Am Hemingway	68	72		—	—	—
1	1	Anthony Gp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bellis Pic	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Berkeley Sweett	118	122		5.5	4.5	6.7
1	1	Burns-Anderson	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Camellia	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Cantrefe	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Chesterton	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hanway&Hodgson	215	220		10.5	4.9	10.7
1	1	Hillsdown	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hoby & Shaw	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Ideal	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Majedie	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	MK Home Loans	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Mowlem Pic	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Rutland Trst	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Shrewsbury Pic	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Slough Est	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Stagecoach	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tarmac	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Tomkins	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Trafalgar	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Trocadero	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Ultrasis	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Unicorn	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Watson & Philip	—	—		—	—	—

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
219	89	American Express	104	106		1.7	4.5	10.2
307	215	Bankers Trust	280	283	+1	5.3	2.7	8.1
359	255	Henderson Admin	330	332		5.5	2.3	7.9
131	91	Investco Mid	121	123		2.5	2.1	7.8
134	97	MAI	130	132		2.5	1.9	7.7
703	415	MAM	355	365		8.5	2.3	8.0
492	347	M & G	355	365		8.5	2.3	8.0
141	77	Smith New Court	47	48		4.7	9.8	5.5
90	18	Tyndall Hldgs	18	22		—	—	—

FOODS

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
1257	372	AB Food	455	456	+2	15.2	3.3	21.9
1295	1100	Allied Colloids	1180	1200		34	2.8	20.5
1	1	Albert Fisher	111	114	-1½	4.5	4.1	11.3
1	1	Apetito	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Argyll Group	1	1		—	—	—
1	1	Associated Fisheries	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Associated Kinsh	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bells (Stanley G)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Berr (Alb)	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bernard Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Booker	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Bovis Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Brake Bros	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Budgens	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Chubby-Scherp	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Cwrt Mellog	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Clifford Foods 'A'	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Cobbs	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Dairy Farm Int	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Dalgety	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Devro S	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Dyflin	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Ernest	—	—		—	—	—
1	1	Hazlewood Foods	—	—		—	—	—
1	1

Power to call ward in criminal case

In re R (a Minor) (Wardship: Witness in criminal proceedings)

Before Lord Donaldson of Lymington, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Beldam

[Reasons January 23]

In the conduct of criminal proceedings it was for the judge of the criminal court, not the wardship judge, to consider whether or not a ward of court should be called as a witness in the those proceedings.

Accordingly a father's application in wardship for leave to call his son aged 12 as a defence witness at his forthcoming trial on chages of sexual abuse was unnecessary.

However, application for leave to interview the child was necessary and the governing procedure was that similar to practice directions relating to such applications when made by the police or the prosecution.

The Court of Appeal so stated giving reasons for allowing on January 14 the father's appeal from Judge Callman, sitting as a wardship judge, who had refused his application for the ward, S, to be interviewed by his solicitors and for S to be called as a witness in his forthcoming trial on charges of sexual abuse in respect of his three daughters.

The Court of Appeal ordered that S be interviewed by the father's solicitors in the presence of a representative of the Official Solicitor on condition that the father was not present and that, unless distress would be caused to S, no other member of the family was present.

Mr James Munby, QC and Miss Kharin Cox for the father; Mr Michael Warren for the mother; Mr Henry Turcan for the guardian *ad litem*; Mr Mathias Kelly for the local authority.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the family consisted of father, mother and six children, who became wards of court in March 1990. Subsequently the father was charged with serious offences against the three older girls. The appeal related to S a boy aged 12 in respect of whom the applications had been made.

The first issue concerned the scope of the wardship jurisdiction where either prosecution or defence wished to interview a ward with a view to taking a proof of evidence, and if so advised calling him as a witness.

There was no doubt, and it was not questioned on the appeal, that the wardship court was entitled to require that its consent be obtained as a precondition of anyone's right to interview the ward: see *Practice Direction (Ward: Witness at Trial)* ([1987] 1 WLR 1739) and *Practice Direction (Ward: Witness at Trial) (No 2)* ([1988] 1 WLR 989).

The first direction stemmed from *In re K (Minors) (Wardship: Criminal Proceeding)* ([1988] Fam 1), relating to interviews by the prosecution and the police.

Those representing defendants in criminal proceedings equally required leave to interview wards and should in principle be granted the same facilities, subject to the qualification that it would not be appropriate that the child should be interviewed on behalf of the defendant if and so long as that child was likely to be a prosecution witness and that the circumstances might dictate the need to impose special conditions, such as those in the present case.

The court expressed the hope that in any case both the prosecution and the defence would explore every avenue open to them to avoid the need for the ward to attend the trial: see, for example, sections 9 and 10 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act 1969.

Turning to the issue as to consent to the giving of evidence, his Lordship said that the courts traditionally declined to define the ultimate limits of the wardship jurisdiction. But they necessarily had to rule on how that jurisdiction, whatever its extent, should be exercised in different situations. The court now adopted that approach.

His Lordship referred to *In re K* ([1988] Fam 1, 11-12) where Mr Justice Waterhouse had held that it was unnecessary for the prosecution to obtain the wardship court's leave and that it would be inappropriate for that court to give such leave. That conclusion was based on grounds of constitutional propriety and public policy.

The present appeal was distinguishable on its facts but not so as to affect the principle involved.

Children, whether wards or not, were citizens owing duties to society as a whole which were appropriate to their years and understanding. Such duties were defined by statute and common law.

In the context of the conduct of criminal proceedings in court, the definition and enforcement of those duties had been entrusted by law exclusively to the court in which the proceedings were being conducted and it was not for the wardship court, whatever the theoretical scope of its jurisdiction, to use that jurisdiction to interfere with the performance by the criminal courts of their lawful duties.

With regard to the present appeal, the court could not support the judge's approach, and exercising a fresh discretion, in so far as the court had a discretion in the exercise of its wardship jurisdiction in such applications, the court would give consent to the interview in the terms indicated.

Solicitors: Ralph Haring & Co; Powell Spencer & Partners, Kilburn; Official Solicitor; Mr Stephen R. Forster, Brent.

Child party compellable as witness

In re P (Minor: compellability as witness)

Before Lord Donaldson of Lymington, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Nicholls and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss

[Reasons January 17]

A witness summons might be issued under section 97 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 to secure the presence of a child party in care proceedings.

However, in the exercise of discretion, a magistrate would not make such an order where it would be oppressive to do so, or where he was satisfied that the summons would be so inimical to the child's welfare that it outweighed the legitimate interest of the person seeking it or that in any event the child would not be permitted to give evidence at the oral hearing.

Where, therefore, the applicant sought to compel the attendance of his step-daughter aged 17, who had made serious allegations of sexual abuse against him, as a witness in care proceedings in respect of herself and three younger children in the family in order to cross-examine her, the magistrate had properly refused to issue a summons under section 97 of the Act.

The Court of Appeal so held giving reasons for dismissing on December 17, 1990 the step-father's appeal from Sir Stephen Brown, President, who had refused judicial review of (i) a decision of the local authority not to call J, as a witness in care proceedings brought by the authority in respect of herself and three younger children and (ii) a decision of the stipendiary magistrate in the juvenile court who had refused the step-father's application for the issue of a witness summons in respect of J under the 1980 Act.

Under reporting restrictions ordered by the court, publication of particulars leading to the identification of the children, their carers or the relevant juvenile court was prohibited. solicitors and counsel are therefore not named.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that in March 1990 J, who was born in 1973, made serious allegations of sexual abuse against her step-father with whom she, her sister and his two natural children had lived. The local authority in consequence obtained place of safety orders in respect of all four children and instituted care proceedings for them all.

Her Ladyship referred to the criminal proceedings taken against the step-father in which the prosecution offered no evidence resulting in the case being discharged.

Thereafter the step-father's solicitors had sought to require the local authority to call J to give evidence in the substantive hearing of care proceedings.

The local authority proposed relying, in respect of all four applications for care orders, on J's written statement to the police and oral statements made by her to a child psychologist. It therefore indicated that having regard to the likely harmful effect on J it did not propose to call her.

The local authority had carefully considered the question of J's giving evidence and had reached a decision well within the limits of its discretion. Her Ladyship agreed with the President that the application for judicial review could not succeed on that ground.

Turning to the issue of compellability, Her Ladyship said that J's evidence had great significance for the decisions as to the other three children. The step-father's case was that J was a consummate liar who would not dare repeat her lies in the witness box. While not wishing to call her himself, except in the last resort, his application was on the basis that if someone else would call her, he could cross-examine her.

Her Ladyship referred to the provisions of section 97, incorporated into care proceedings by section 2(6) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969. It was a common ground that J was a competent but unwilling witness. In her Ladyship's view J's evidence would be material.

There was no reason in principle why a witness summons should not apply to a party. Her Ladyship drew the analogy with a subpoena which could be issued in the High Court at the request of one party to require the attendance of another party.

By section 2 of the Evidence Act 1851 all who were competent to give evidence in civil proceedings were also compellable witnesses unless falling within exceptions which did not include parties.

The jurisdiction of the juvenile court was a hybrid one dealing both with juvenile offenders and care proceedings. Section 97 had been incorporated into the 1969 Act without provisos and there was no reason why a party in care proceedings should be in any different a position from any other proceedings and consequently subject to the issue of a section 97 summons if the justices considered it appropriate.

Counsel for the step-father had conceded that the juvenile court had a discretion whether to issue the witness summons. That discretion stemmed from two separate principles:

1 The inherent jurisdiction of the court not to require the attendance of witnesses where it would be oppressive to do so. Subpoenas would be set aside if oppressive and in her Ladyship's judgment the general principle extended to all courts which had the power to require the attendance of witnesses.

2 The specific requirement for the court to consider the welfare of the child: see section 44(1) of the 1980 Act, and since J was 17, section 29(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933.

Her Ladyship was reluctantly convinced that section 97 did apply to children who were parties, but she was equally convinced that it was an inappropriate vehicle for the attendance of a child in the present proceedings and its powers to compel the reluctant witness to give evidence entirely unsuited to a child.

Reading section 97 as a whole, if the juvenile court considered at the time of an application for a summons that for reasons of welfare of the child the child should not be called as a witness, then it would be inappropriate to issue the summons.

The purpose of the juvenile court proceedings had always to be borne in mind: see section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969. That court's duty was to the child and its concern was for the welfare of the child.

It was not sitting as a criminal court and the alleged abuser was not on trial. The standard of proof was a civil one although the evidence called had to be commensurate with the seriousness of the allegations made.

In the present case, the step-father, although in the last resort, was prepared to call J himself he wanted her to attend court, give evidence and be cross-examined by his counsel. Section 97 was not designed for such a use. Application for that use would, in her Ladyship's view, amount to an abuse of process.

Her Ladyship agreed with the President that the application for judicial review should be refused.

Her Ladyship, endorsing a similar view expressed by the stipendiary magistrate, considered that a court presented with hearsay evidence had to look at it anxiously and consider carefully the extent to which it could properly be relied on.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS, concurring in the result, added that the court had been careful to avoid any reference to the name of the local authority or of the juvenile court concerned lest it thereby assisted in the identification of the children. His Lordship suggested that judges sitting at first instance should take similar precautions when giving reasons for their decisions.

Lord Justice Nicholls delivered a judgment concurring in the result.

Revolving display different from billboard

Arora v Hackney London Borough Council
Motivation Display Ltd v Same

Before Lord Justice Neill and Mr Justice Leonard

[Judgment December 18]

The erection of a revolving multiple display advertisement did not constitute the same "activity" as the erection of hoardings bearing advertisements for the purpose of section 90(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, as substituted by section 1 of the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 1977, and defendants could not therefore rely on their earlier activity as a defence.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in dismissing an appeal brought by way of case stated by the defendants, Mr Satinder Kumar Arora and Motivation Display Ltd, against the dismissal by Southwark Crown Court (Judge Ian Campbell and justices) on July 27, 1989 of their appeal against their convictions by Thames Magistrates Court on April 13, 1989 for breaches of stop notices served under section 90(1) of the 1971 Act, as substituted. They were each fined £500 with £100 costs.

Section 90 of the 1971 Act, as substituted, provides: "(1) Where . . . the local planning authority – (a) have served . . . an enforcement notice . . . they may serve . . . a stop notice.

"(2) . . . where the period during which an activity has been carried out on land . . . began more than twelve months earlier, a stop notice shall not prohibit the carrying out of that activity. . ."

Mr John Leslie for the defendants; Miss Morag Ellis for the council.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that the local authority had granted the defendants permission in 1981 to erect three advertising hoardings for five years at 2 Lea Bridge Road, Clapton, London. At the end of that period the local authority served a discontinuance notice. That led to an appeal which was dismissed.

Later that year, the defendants erected multiple display advertising. Almost at once the local authority issued an enforcement notice, followed by a stop notice.

The crown court had found that the form of "active" multiple display later erected was totally different from the previous "passive" display and accordingly upheld the convictions.

It seemed to his Lordship that "activity" could be restricted in its meaning so as to comprehend a particular type of advertising. It was a question of fact and degree and, subject to extreme cases, it was a matter for the tribunal of fact to determine.

Mr Justice Leonard agreed.

Solicitors: Pegden & Dubow, Lower Edmonton; Miss Judy Rolston, Hackney.

Discretion to discharge juror

Regina v Morris

When, during the trial of a defendant charged with shoplifting from Marks & Spencer, a juror disclosed to the court that she was employed by that company, the judge had a discretion to decide whether or not that juror should be discharged.

The proper test for him to apply was the same as had been held to be appropriate for justices to apply, namely to decide whether there would be the appearance of bias by asking himself whether a reasonable and fair-minded observer, fully informed of all the relevant facts, would have a reasonable suspicion that a fair trial was not possible: see *R v Liverpool City Justices, Ex parte Topping* ([1983] 1 WLR 119).

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Farquharson, Mr Justice Garland and Mr Justice Ognall) so stated on December 10 when allowing the appeal of Cynthia Morris and quashing her conviction on October 17, 1990 at Guildford Crown Court (Judge Rubin and a jury) of theft, for which she had been sentenced to three months imprisonment.

LORD JUSTICE FARQUHARSON said that in the instant case the judge, in rejecting a submission that the juror should be discharged, had exercised his discretion on the wrong basis by deciding that there could be no actual bias on that juror's part instead of considering whether there would be the appearance of bias.

Their Lordships concluded that there had been a material misdirection.

Planning inspector's extra drink with one side did not cause bias

Cotterell and Others v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

Before Mr A. R. Vandermeer, QC

[Judgment January 14]

Where a planning inspector went for a drink with representatives of both sides and their witnesses following a site visit but stayed in the public house for a further twenty minutes having an additional drink with the local authority planning officer and an objector after the appellants' representative and witness had left, the inspector's conduct was not such as to lead to an inference of bias.

Mr Arnold Vandermeer, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division so held in dismissing an appeal by Henry Cotterell, Brian Stevens, Guy Smallwood and Andrew Arkwright against a decision of the Secretary of State for the Environment upholding a decision of Leominster District Council to refuse planning permission.

Mr Martin Kingston for the appellants; Mr Michael Kent for the secretary of state.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the question of bias was a matter of impression. The starting point was the agreement of the parties to go together. It was not a case where the inspector and the others had come together without the knowledge and acceptance of the appellants' representative.

Before leaving, the appellants' representative had offered to buy the others another drink. The offer had been refused. The representative had, therefore, known the others would remain together and expected that it would be for a short period while they finished their drinks.

If things had stopped there, or if the inspector had asked if the appellants' representative minded if he stayed for longer with the others, there could have been no complaint. However, in the event the inspector bought another round of drinks and the others were together for some twenty minutes.

Bearing in mind that the matter started with everyone together and that the appellants' representative left the others alone his Lordship concluded that the situation fell on the right side of the line.

Solicitors: Withers for T. A. Matthews & Co, Hereford; Treasury Solicitor.

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Conditions ideal for Tree Poppy

By MANDARIN (MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

NO RUNNER at Newton Abbot today is guaranteed to relish the soft conditions underfoot more than Tree Poppy, who is napped to win the Tattersalls Mares Only Novices' Chase qualifier.

When she was trained by Richard Lee, Tree Poppy showed good form over hurdles. Two years ago, she struck a purple patch in the spring, winning three times in succession, at Worcester, Lingfield and Chepstow, when the going was every bit as testing as it will be today.

Last season, she fared less well in terms of races won. But she still showed that she was as effective as ever when the conditions suited her by landing a valuable prize at Uttoxeter for which she started favourite.

Tree Poppy is now trained by Charlie Brooks, who had hoped to run her over fences for the first time at Haydock last Saturday, following some really encouraging schooling sessions on the downs above Lambourn.

Brooks was frustrated by the weather, but it is my contention that today's race is easier than the one that would have confronted Tree Poppy on the Lancashire track even though the opposition includes Mrs Muck's younger half-sister, Miss Muck, and Sea Island, who was such a smart novice hurdler three seasons ago.

Sea Island is trained by Martin Pipe, whose best prospects today could well lie with one of Peter Scudamore's mounts, **Outside Edge** (3.0) and **Vagog** (4.0).

Outside Edge, who is my selection to win the Torquay Hotels Association Challenge Bowl, has twice had the misfortune to come up against that in-form chaser Twin Oaks at Haydock this season.

A repetition of either of those efforts should suffice this time, especially since Birling Jack and Envopak Token both had to be pulled up last time.

Vagog, who won over three miles at Cheltenham last season, is more than capable of leading all the way in the Holbeam Handicap Hurdle, even under top weight.

It's After Time, who won on the course on Boxing Day, is taken to give a repeat performance in the West Country Novices' Hurdle at the start of the programme.

If he manages to do so, he will be pointing to **Coole Dodger**, who was runner-up to him, also being good enough to win the Darracombe Novices' Hurdle later on.

At Huntingdon, Josh Gifford, who has such a fine record there, can land a double with **Bollinger** (1.15) and **Bean Pari** (3.15).

Bollinger who is my selection for the first division of the Offord Novices' Hurdle, has always been held in quite high regard at Findon. Following that decisive victory at Worcester last month, he should be capable of dealing with the likes of Fortunes Wood and Poetic Gem.

Bean Pari, my choice for the Paxton Handicap Chase, was not hard pressed to win at Cheltenham on New Year's day.

Country Cap should only have to reproduce his Folkestone running, where he was beaten only a length by that useful novice **Le Chat Noir**, to land the Bet With The Tote Novices' Chase at the expense of Corrected.

I also like the look of **Teenage Scribbler's** chance of winning the second division of the Offord Novices' Hurdle with **Ginger Wings** 11th. **Canoscan** 13½l 3rd to Chichell's Hurst at Leicester (2m, soft) with **Diamond Run** 8th and **Venture Lady** 10th. **Poetic Gem** 3½l 3rd to **It's After Time** at Newton Abbot (2m 150yd, soft). **The Fax Man** 27l 4th to Smith's Cracker at Towcester (2m, good).

Selection: FORTUNES WOOD

HUNTINGDON

Selections

By Mandarin	By Thunderer
1.15 Bollinger.	1.15 Bollinger.
1.45 Liams Pride.	1.45 Monumental Lad.
2.15 Teenage Scribbler.	2.15 **DOONLOUGHAN** (nap).
2.45 Country Cap.	2.45 Country Cap.
3.15 Beau Pari.	3.15 Norval.
3.45 Broctune Grey.	3.45 Broctune Grey.
4.15 Miss Adventure.	4.15 City Kid.

Michael Seely's selection: 4.15 Blustery Fellow.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.45 COUNTRY CAP.

Going: good (chase course); good to soft (hurdles) SIS

1.15 OFFORD NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £1,910: 2m 100yd) (18 runners)

1	1-21	**BOLLINGER** 43 (D,F,S) (R Eliot) J Gifford 5-11-13	R Rowe	93
2	13	**FORTUNES WOOD** 59 (D,BF,S) (C Morrison) T Thomson Jones 5-11-13	S Smith Eccles	92
3	6/04	**ALL GOLD BOY** 33 (J Boodle) G Enright 5-11-6	R Dunwoody	85
4		**BROCKLEY HILL LAD** (C Cronan Ltd) C Brooks 5-11-6	G Bradley	—
5	03	**CANOSCAN** 24 (Lady Sarah Clutton) Lady Herries 5-11-6	T Grantham	85
6	0	**DIAMOND RUN** 24 (Mrs F Wigley) Miss H Knight 7-11-6	G Upton (3)	—
7	0-	**HICKELTON HOUSE** 421 (Flint Cottage Stables) M Tompkins 7-11-6	S Smith Eccles	—
8	30-3	**POETIC GEM** 29 (Lady Harris) G Balding 6-11-6	J Frost	99
9		**QUENTIN DURWOOD** (Mrs R Bonner) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-6	M Pitman	—
10	P/3UR6-	**ROXALL CLUMP** 338 (M Morley) P Bailey 7-11-6	Mr E Bailey (7)	88
11	1-R9	*THE FAX MAN* 35 (F) (*Curley Credit Bookmaking*) *B Curley 6-11-6*	D Murphy	88
12		**WOODY WILL** (J South) O Sherwood 5-11-6	J Osborne	—
13	0-	**BANGKOK BOSS** 283 (Miss M Sheridan) J Spearing 5-11-1	R Guest	—
14	0P6	**BRAZEN BARONESS** 16 (B Attwood) Mrs P Sly 5-11-1	A Carroll	68
15	0PP-0P	**GINGER WINGS** 24 (D Forehead) A Moore 7-11-1	G Moore	—
16	0	**ROYAL FLAMINGO** 61 (C Bravery) C Bravery 5-11-1	P Kelly (7)	—
17	46/F0	**VENTURE LADY** 24 (N Addis) J McConnochie 7-11-1	J Shortt	—
18	P	**BYGARS** 40 (M Woolridge) D Williams 4-10-8	B Dowling (7)	—

BETTING: 3-1 Bollinger, 4-1 Poetic Gem, 5-1 Fortunes Wood, 6-1 Canoscan, 8-1 Woody Will, The Fax Man, 10-1 Quentin Durwood, All Gold Boy, 12-1 Brockley Hill Lad, Roxall Clump, 14-1 others.

1990: MEETING ABANDONED — HIGH WINDS

FORM FOCUS **BOLLINGER** beat Mudahim 1½l at Worcester (2m, soft) with **CANOSCAN** 8th. **FORTUNES WOOD** 11½l 3rd to So Proud over course and distance (good to firm).

ALL GOLD BOY showed improved form to finish 18½l 4th of 16 to King Credo at Lingfield (2m, good) with **GINGER WINGS** 11th. **CANOSCAN** 13½l 3rd to Chichell's Hurst at Leicester (2m, soft) with **DIAMOND RUN** 8th and **VENTURE LADY** 10th. **POETIC GEM** 3½l 3rd to **It's After Time** at Newton Abbot (2m 150yd, soft). **THE FAX MAN** 27l 4th to Smith's Cracker at Towcester (2m, good).

Selection: FORTUNES WOOD

1.45 ST NEOTS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,346: 2m 200yd) (12 runners)

1	5/2F-B15	**MONUMENTAL LAD** 25 (CD,S) (T Parrott) Mrs H Parrott 8-12-0	R Bellamy	91
2	/641P/5-	**HALLO MATEY** 302 (C,G) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 10-11-11	T Barry	—
3	/045/01	**SQUARE ONE** 69 (CD,G) (G Beccle) T Forster 9-11-9	G Upton	—
4	00/5552	**LIAMS PRIDE** 19 (A Potts) S Mellor 8-11-7	J Ladder	83
5	F-03384	**NEVER A PENNY** 37 (S) (J Mooney) J Elliot 8-11-2	S Foster	95
6	5-4U164	**SOLENT LAD** 50 (D,F,G,S) (The I W Racing Club) B Stevens 8-11-0	M Stevens	97
7	34P-344	**PALMERSTON BOY** 23 (F,S) (Palmerston Business Centre) A Moore 8-10-13	M Hood	93
8	/080/P2	**AROUND TOWN** 24 (D,F,G) (P Purdy) J Bennett 10-10-10	—	—
9	0/4-PP0	**LOG CABIN** 12 (D,S) (R Harnett) B Ellison 10-10-8	N Smith	85
10	432U23	**HOPE END** 28 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs Y Allsop) R Dickin 13-10-8	Martin Jones	89
11	FPP63	*RESPITE* 24 (D,F) (*B Byford*) *B Byford 10-10-5*	A Wiggett (7)	—
12	P6084	**LE JACOBIN** 24 (B) (B Gee) B Gee 8-10-5	T Pinfield	—

BETTING: 7-2 Monumental Lad, 4-1 Square One, 5-1 Liams Pride, 6-1 Hope end, 8-1 Never A Penny, Solent Lad, 10-1 Hallo Matey, Palmerston Boy, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS **MONUMENTAL LAD** 46l 5th to Moment of Truth in grade one novice chase at Newcastle (2m, good); previously beat Cinnamon Run 1l at Worcester (2m, soft). **SQUARE ONE** won claiming hurdle here (2m 100yd, good) and makes chasing debut. **LIAMS PRIDE** 2½l 2nd to Gannaas (pair clear) at Market Rasen (2m 1f, good to soft). **NEVER A PENNY** 19l 4th to Farmlea Boy at Folkestone (2m 4f, good to firm).

SOLENT LAD has twice disappointed since beating Lord Admiral 4l at Windsor (2m 40yd, good to firm) in November. **HOPE END** tailed off at Wolverhampton last time (2m, good); previously 25l 2nd to Knockbrack at Plumpton (2m, good to firm).

Selection: LIAMS PRIDE

2.15 OFFORD NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £1,895: 2m 100yd) (20 runners)

1	2P/0513	**TEENAGE SCRIBBLER** 19 (D,S) (T Pickett) W Kemp 6-11-13	E McKinley	99
2	0/	**DON JACOBO** 698 (Oxford & County Roofing Ltd) T Casey 6-11-6	—	—
3	6	**DOONLOUGHAN** 35 (D Strauss) G Balding 6-11-6	J Frost	99
4	00/0-	**FLOLINE** 443 (P Lee) M Robinson 7-11-6	J White	—
5		**HURRICANE HUGO** (Bellbrae Developments Ltd) J Gifford 5-11-6	R Rowe	—
6	0	**IMBIBER** 21 (Heathavon Stables Ltd) C Brooks 5-11-6	—	—
7	5	**JOHNSON** 14 (Mrs A Evill) T Donnelly 5-11-6	M Lynch	94
8	0	**KEEPOFF-THE-GRASS** 85 (J Upson) J Upson 5-11-6	R Supple	—
9		**KELLYS GAZETTE** (M Barraclough) M Barraclough 5-11-6	Ann Stokell	—
10	6	**LOUIS FARRELL** 34 (Mrs M Watt) Miss H Knight 6-11-6	G Upton (3)	—
11	P	**MIDNIGHT STORY** 14 (Mrs D Stamp) Miss H Knight 6-11-6	J Osborne	—
12	0	**NOTHINGBUTPLEASURE** 61 (A Wates) T Etherington 5-11-6	R Guest	—
13		**SHANNON GLEN** (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-6	M Pitman	—
14	24-03	**SHUTTLE HILL** 24 (C Murphy) T Tate 6-11-6	G Bradley	—
15		**SUNDAY PUNCH** (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 5-11-6	E Murphy	—
16		**YOUNG ALFIE** (J Panvert) J Panvert 6-11-6	J Akehurst	—
17	0PU	**DEEP DAWN RUN** 26 (Mrs K Scott) J McConnochie 5-11-1	J Shortt	—
18	U3F	**DEEP-MONDAINE** 73 (Mrs S Thomson Jones) Mrs D Haine 6-11-1	C Huggan (7)	—
19		**LUNAR MISSILE** (A Byrne) G Eden 5-11-1	V Smith	—
20		**BARRICA** (Mrs A Chapman) *D Nicholson 4-10-9*	*R Dunwoody*	—

BETTING: 7-2 Doonloughan, 4-1 Teenage Scribbler, 5-1 Shannon Glen, 6-1 Johnson, 8-1 Barrica, Shuttle Hill, 10-1 Hurricane Hugo, Sunday Punch, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS **TEENAGE SCRIBBLER** 21 3rd to Lake Terreen in novice handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 5f 75yd, soft). **DOONLOUGHAN** promising 12½l 8th of 17 to Charlton Yeoman at Towcester (2m, good). **JOHNSON** staying-on 13½l 5th of 21 to Parson's Thorns at Wincanton (2m, good) where **MIDNIGHT STORY** was pulled up. **LOUIS FARRELL** weakened from three out when 24l 6th of 16 to Star Player at Uttoxeter (2m 4f, soft). **SHANNON GLEN** is by Furry Glen out of a Deep Run mare. **SHUTTLE HILL** 24l 3rd to Blacksburg at Catterick (2m, good). **DEEP-MONDAINE** headed and fell 2 out behind Concert Paper on Wolverhampton (2m 5f 110yd, good) hurdling debut.

Selection: TEENAGE SCRIBBLER

2.45 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £2,427: 3m) (9 runners)

1	0/3-1P	**CORRECTED** 28 (C,G) (Mrs R Dunwoody) D Nicholson 6-11-3	R Dunwoody	75
2	00-2	**BARSHARE** 24 (Mrs J Gray) D Morrill 6-10-10	M Brennan	—
3	03325/2	**COUNTRY CAP** 59 (G) (R Townsend) R Townsend 10-10-10	Mr D Townsend	99
4	51/0P-P	**GINGERLAND** 27 (B,G) (Miss M Stuart-Hunt) S Sherwood 8-10-10	J Osborne	—
5	46-PPU5	**PRAIRIE STORM** 27 (A Wates) T Etherington 7-10-10	R Rowe	53
6	0PPR-FF	**PRY'S-JOY** 50 (G Hubbard) F Murphy 7-10-10	T Barry (7)	—
7	6/46P-F0	**WHAT A TO DO** 17 (J Sumner) T Forster 7-10-10	C Llewellyn	—
8	622-2F	**YORK IMPERIAL** 13 (B Gee) B Gee 10-10-10	G Bradley	71
9	0-0502	**TOCHENKA** 29 (R Minton-Price) Mrs J Croft 7-10-5	W Humphreys	64

BETTING: 5-4 Country Cap, 7-2 Corrected, 5-1 York Imperial, 8-1 What A To Do, 10-1 Gingerland, 12-1 Pry's-Joy, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS **CORRECTED** has disappointed since defeating Quick Reaction neck here (2m 4f, good). **COUNTRY CAP** reappeared after lengthy absence to finish encouraging 11 2nd to Le Chat Noir, pair clear, at Folkestone (2m 4f, good to firm).

WHAT A TO DO chased leaders until weakened from 10th in novice handicap chase at Wolverhampton (2m 4f, good to soft), finishing tailed off 7th to Bold Monic; previously fell at 5th behind into The Red at Stratford (2m 6f, good to soft) where **GINGERLAND** was tailed off and pulled up two out.

YORK IMPERIAL led until fell at 9th latest start at Wetherby (3m 100yd, soft); previously one-paced 25l 2nd to Hay Rawley at Market Rasen (2m 5f, good to soft). **TOCHENKA** lost match with Wide Boy here (2m 200yd, soft) by 4l.

Selection: COUNTRY CAP

3.15 PAXTON HANDICAP CHASE (£2,992: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1	33-S141	**BEAU PARI** 23 (D,G,S) (G Radmore) J Gifford 7-11-13	R Rowe	93
2	20F4/21	**NORVAL** 35 (D,F,S) (N Mason Farms Ltd) Mrs G Reveley 9-11-3	P Niven	99
3	528-P43	**SOCKS DOWNE** 27 (D,G,S) (C Cowley) J King 12-11-1	J White	95
4	33-3P14	**EARL SOHAM** 29 (CD,G) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 8-11-0	D Murphy	92
5	61/F-F0	**RIVER BED** 28 (D,G) (R Padgham) J Edwards 7-10-11	D Tegg	—
6	F6228U	**FORCED MARCH** 24 (G) (J Kinnear) G Balding 7-10-9	R Guest	98
7	284-3U3	**BEE GARDEN** 58 (B,G,S) (J West) P Bailey 10-10-4	S Smith Eccles	96
8	P503P-6	**AH HELLO** 29 (F) (J Lemon) J Bostock 10-10-0	—	89
9	404-823	**CHELSEA MAN** 37 (B,D,S) (Ash Contracts Ltd) Mrs L Clay 10-10-0	R Dunwoody	88
10	U33-123	**THE FRUIT** 41 (D,F) (*R Ledger*) R Ledger 12-10-0	Mrs N Ledger	97

Long handicap: Ah Hello 9-12, Chelsea Man 9-11; The Fruit 9-9.

BETTING: 5-2 Beau Pari, 3-1 Norval, 5-1 Forced March, 6-1 Socks Downe, 8-1 Earl Soham, 10-1 River Bed, 12-1 Bee Garden, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS **BEAU PARI** stayed on strongly to defeat Whats Your Problem 7l at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good to soft); earlier opened chasing account with ½l defeat of Mulloch Brae at Warwick (2m 4f, good) where **FORCED MARCH** (18lb better off) finished 12l 6th. **NORVAL** led flat to beat Interim Lib 4l at Kelso (2m 5f, good to soft). **EARL SOHAM** made all on penultimate start over course and distance (good) to defeat Alcatraz 15l. **FORCED MARCH** showed reluctance to race when unseating rider 5th at Plumpton (2m, good to soft); previously 25l 2nd to Good Tonic over course and distance (soft) with **EARL SOHAM** (2lb worse off) distant 4th. **CHELSEA MAN** 15l 3rd to Farmlea Boy at Folkestone (2m 4f, good to firm).

Selection: NORVAL

3.45 SAPLEY HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,935: 3m 1f) (8 runners)

1	00-2423	**BROCTUNE GREY** 28 (C,F,S) (D Playforth) Mrs G Reveley 7-12-0	R Hodge (7)	99
2	0/P	**TURBO KING** 25 (G Hubbard) F Murphy 5-12-0	T Barry (7)	—
3	210P-2F	**MARQUEE CAFE** 12 (F,S) (Miss G Dollar) Miss G Dollar 7-10-8	R Boucher (7)	96
4	P0-P364	**ROSTREAMER** 12 (G) (Miss D Forsyth) C Bravery 8-10-0	R Dunwoody	90
5	655-0P4	*TAKE NO TRASH* 9 (D,G) *B Byford 10-10-0*	G Martin	91
6	0P0R-42	**VIASCORIT** 15 (F) (A Reid) A Reid 9-10-0	A Carroll	83
7	00/0P00	**STIKIT'S BROTHER** 12 (G,S) (Mrs A Alhamrani) Miss E Sneyd 13-10-0	—	—
8	FUP4-P8	**HELLO SAM** 23 (F) (P Bennett) J Bennett 8-10-0	C Llewellyn	—

Long handicap: Rostreamer 9-7, Take No Trash 9-6, Viascorit 9-6, Stikit's Brother 9-5, Hello Sam 8-13.

BETTING: 5-4 Broctune Grey, 7-2 Marquee Cafe, 9-2 Rostreamer, 8-1 Viascorit, Take No Trash, 16-1 *Stikit's Brother, 33-1 others.*

FORM FOCUS **BROCTUNE GREY** 15½l 3rd to Yorkshire Holly at Wetherby (3m, soft); better effort previously when 6l 2nd to Banker's Gossip at Cheltenham (3m, good to firm).

MARQUEE CAFE fair 8l 2nd to The Illywhacker on penultimate start at Windsor (2m 6f, good) with **STIKIT'S BROTHER** 11th. **ROSTREAMER** made good late headway to finish 8l 4th to Polish at Market Rasen (3m, good to soft) with **STIKIT'S BROTHER** poor 10th. **TAKE NO TRASH** one-paced 18l 4th to Lesbet at Lingfield (3m, AW). **VIASCORIT** 12l 2nd to King of Shadows in Southwell seller (2m 6f, AW).

Selection: BROCTUNE GREY (nap)

4.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,969: 2m 4f) (14 runners)

1	20-3410	**SINGLESOLE** 12 (B,CD,S) (Mrs P Sly) Mrs P Sly 8-11-10	A Carroll	96
2	21P	**MISS ADVENTURE** 28 (D,G) (Rosco Ltd) M Tompkins 4-11-5	S Smith Eccles	98
3	46-3P33	**CUDDY DALE** 28 (CD,F,G,S) (*G Hubbard*) *F Murphy 8-11-5*	*D Murphy*	—
4	20/045/	**CRYSTAL SONG** 759 (Mrs W Woodman) J Jenkins 8-11-3	R Dunwoody	—
5	30-00F6	**CITY KID** 12 (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 6-11-2	E Murphy	88
6	0/4-65	**THE SHY CONTROLLER** 27 (B) (M Bateman) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-1	M Pitman	95
7	1F460P	**SCARLET EXPRESS** 13 (B,G) (P Evans) P Kelleway 4-11-1	J Harris	99
8	16-2224	**PADAVENTURE** 40 (BF,S) (W Coleen & Son Ltd) Mrs G Reveley 5-11-0	P Niven	98
9	F6-6	**BLUSTERY FELLOW** 17 (Mrs R Humphries) O Sherwood 6-10-10	J Osborne	94
10	30-0026	**MISTRESS ROSS** 24 (Dr J Van Tilburg) G Thorner 8-10-7	D Bridgwater (7)	83
11	46U450	**MARCH ABOVE** 23 (V,G) (R Sparkes) B Stevens 5-10-7	M Stevens (7)	96
12	/08/363	**PLENARY** 12 (S Hartley) J Wharton 8-10-7	S J O'Neill	97
13	60P-PP0	**DRY GIN** 12 (F,S) (L Naylor) M Chapman 8-10-0	W Worthington	—
14	50-000	**WEDDING FEAST** 19 (B) (H Porter) J McConnochie 6-10-0	J Shortt	—

Long handicap: Dry Gin 9-11, Wedding Feast 9-8.

BETTING: 4-1 Padaventure, 9-2 Miss Adventure, 5-1 Singlesole, 6-1 Blustery Fellow, 8-1 The Shy Controller, City Kid, 10-1 Cuddy Dale, Scarlet Express, 12-1 March Above, Plenary, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS **SINGLESOLE** 48l 10th to Secret Four in good Ascot novice hurdle last time (2m 4f, soft); previously beat De Profundis over course and distance (soft). **MISS ADVENTURE** ran as if something was amiss when pulling up at Kempton (2m 4f); previously clear from two out when defeating Surcoat 2l at Uttoxeter (2m 4f, good).

CUDDY DALE has been in good heart over fences, on penultimate start here (2m 4f chase, good) finishing 3½l 3rd to Pegwell Bay. **THE SHY CONTROLLER** 28l 5th of 17 to Buddington at Stratford (2m 6f, good to soft). **PADAVENTURE** 12½l 4th to Carousel Calypso in Edinburgh maiden (3m, good). ***BLUSTERY FELLOW*** *30l 6th of 17 to Hidden Oats at Wolverhampton (2m, good to soft).* **PLENARY** one-paced 3½l 3rd to Black Sapphire at Market Rasen (2m 6f, good to soft). **DRY GIN** (2lb better off) tailed off 9th.

Selection: SINGLESOLE

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent
F Murphy	5	18	27.8
J Upson	4	17	23.5
J Edwards	11	50	22.0
Mrs G Reveley	3	14	21.4
O Sherwood	13	62	21.0
G Balding	18	92	19.6

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
J Frost	3	13	23.1
J Osborne	5	24	20.8
S Smith Eccles	22	106	20.8
M Pitman	7	37	18.9
T Grantham	5	27	18.5
E Murphy	11	60	18.3

Balding and Frost each fined £500 over Romany King run

By RICHARD EVANS



Balding: "satisfied horse was run on its merits"

TOBY Balding and Jimmy Frost became the first victims of the Jockey Club's crackdown against "non triers" yesterday, when they were each fined £500 over the running and riding of Romany King at Newton Abbot last November.

The trainer and jockey were found guilty by the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee of breaching rule 151, which stipulates that every horse should run on its merits and that jockeys should take "all reasonable and permissible measures throughout the race to ensure that his horse is given a full opportunity to win or obtain the best possible placing."

The Newton Abbot stewards reported Balding and Frost to Portman Square after Romany King finished third in the Vickers Bookmakers Handicap Chase at the West Country course on November 27.

The seven-year-old chaser drifted from 6-4 to 5-2 and, according to the form book, was held up, made good headway at the eleventh fence and was nearest at the finish when finishing 4½ lengths behind South Pool. Romany King won his next three races.

Balding, chairman of the National Trainers Federation's National Hunt committee emerged from a 2½-hour hearing in London and said: "We had an extremely fair hearing. Obviously we do not agree with the decision but we are licensed by the Jockey Club and we abide by its rules and consequently we accept its judgement."

Balding said Romany King had been struck into in his previous race at Stratford and had been off as a result of the injury. "The stewards said, quite rightly, I should not have run it, but I have objectives to meet and it was the first time we had any sort of decent winter ground. It is not my fault the public cared to make him favourite. He had not run very well at Stratford.

"The stewards are there to support their local stewards and if they didn't, quite honestly I would not want to be a local steward."

He said the Jockey Club stewards had compared Jimmy Frost's winning ride in the opening race at Newton Abbot with his performance later on Romany King. "Unfortunately, Jimmy didn't jump up and down in his usual inimitable fashion. They showed the first race, where he lost his irons after a mistake at the last, and he was going like a windmill."

Frost said: "We will take our medicine. I have got to go home now and sell a few bullocks to pay for it."

Balding said he would not be resigning his position on the NFT and added: "I am perfectly satisfied the horse was run on its merits on that particular day. It is a matter of opinion which is why we are all in the game. In cases like this I do not think the stewards have a very enviable job."

Earlier, the disciplinary committee fined Dale McKeown £250 following his refusal to ride Gabish at Folkestone on November 26.

Tory's mixed feelings after losing 3lb claim

ANTHONY Tory lost his 3lb claim with a 129-1 double at Wolverhampton yesterday, but travelled home half expecting to receive a reprimand from Kim Bailey.

Tory, successful on Gold Haven (9-1) and Skinhill (12-1), is due to partner Bailey's heavily-backed ante-post favourite Docklands Express in the *William Hill Golden Spurs* Chase at Doncaster on Saturday and his allowance was obviously expected to be vital in that tightly-knit handicap.

So, although the former amateur rider was delighted with his afternoon's work, he admitted to having mixed feelings about its timing. Tory said: "I'm not sure what Mr Bailey will say. I promised him I would not lose the claim until the week-end."

The Lambourn jockey's two wins came in very different styles. His opening victory was hard-fought, as Gold Haven, jumping fences for the first time in public, only just came out best in an exciting finish to the Essington Novices' Handicap Chase.

By contrast, Skinhill turned the Compton Handicap Chase into a procession, with Tory sitting motionless as his mount eased home 12 lengths clear of Meningi.

Richard Dennis was suspended for two days (February 1 and 2) after partnering third-placed Robert Dear in the Bishop's Wood Hurdle. The stewards considered Dennis's use of the whip — they noted 14 strokes — was excessive.

Griffiths opts for longer race at Cheltenham

SIRRELL Griffiths has decided to let Norton's Coin take on Toby Tobias and Celtic Shot in Saturday's Charterhouse Mercantile Chase (3m 1f) at Cheltenham. The Gold Cup winner has also been entered for the Lechlade Handicap Chase (2m 4f) on the same card.

"One of the reasons I'm going for the longer race is to help Graham McCourt," Griffiths said yesterday. "He wants to ride Katabatic in the other race, so I'm doing him a favour."

● Peter Scudamore has three rides on his return to the saddle at Newton Abbot today. He quickly resumes his record-breaking partnership with Martin Pipe, riding Viking Flagship, Coolulah and Outside Edge for the champion trainer.

LINGFIELD PARK

Selections

By Mandarin

1.40 Counterpunch. 2.10 Hellenic Prince. 2.40 Golden Vintage. 3.10 Sing The Blues. 3.40 Windsor Park. 4.10 Come Home Kingsley.

By Thunderer

1.40 Counterpunch. 2.10 Tara's Delight. 2.40 Golden Vintage. 3.10 Sing The Blues. 3.40 Windsor Park. 4.10 Buzanchar.

Michael Seely's selection: 3.40 Windsor Park.

Going: standard SIS

1.40 STUBBS HANDICAP HURDLE (Amateurs: £1,687: 2m 2f) (6 runners)

1	0-41	**MIGHTY GLOW** 5F (V,F) C Tinkler 7-12-0	S Astaire (7)	
2	0512	**HIGH CHATEAU** 24 (BF,F) J Spearing 7-10-0	Miss T Spearing (7)	
3	-U11	*COUNTERPUNCH* 14 (C) *K Bailey 7-10-0*	Mrs T Bailey (7)	
4	6PP0	**ITS ALL OVER NOW** 18 (B,F) Mrs A King 7-10-0	N Bradley (7)	
5	U00	**ASBAAB** 69 Mrs J Wonnacott 6-10-0	Mrs C Wonnacott	
6	P/0	**KOUS** 7 (B) J Jenkins 8-10-0	R Massey (7)	

2-1 Counterpunch, 3-1 Mighty Glow, 4-1 High Chateau, 5-1 *Kous, 10-1 Its All Over Now, 12-1 Asbaab.*

2.10 HARRINGTON BIRD CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,880: 2m) (14)

1	3-42	**HELLENIC PRINCE** 18 (CD) J Pearce 5-11-11	J McLaughlin	
2	00	**COLOUR SCHEME** 17 J Jenkins 4-11-4	R Goldstein	
3	-F50	**OTTERBURN** 63F F O'Mahony 5-11-3	Mr K Comerford (7)	
4	PU08	**REELING** 14 P Rodford 5-11-2	I Shoemark (3)	
5	3044	**CAERNARVON ROYAL** 9 R Hodges 6-11-1	A Tory	
6	55P0	**SHEIKH'S PET** 23 (B) Mrs J Wonnacott 5-11-1	C Dempsey (7)	
7	PP06	**SOVEREIGN DEED** 9 (B) N Mitchell 9-11-1	D Skyrme (3)	
8	-686	**BRIGADIERS GLORY** 77 C Beaver 5-10-12	S Keightley	
9	0	**TARA'S DELIGHT** 36F (BF) M Ryan 4-10-12	G McCourt	
10	55	**NORSTOCK** 16 J White 4-10-8	—	
11	0	**SOOTY TERN** 36F J Bradley 4-10-7	D Byrne	
12	55	**GABARDOON** 14 J Davies 4-10-5	I Lawrence	
13	0P04	**AGE OF ROMANCE** 14 (B) J Bradley 4-10-2	J Railton	
14	P	**ZHIVAGO'S PASSION** 54 J Ringer 4-10-0	R Beggan	

5-2 Hellenic Prince, 3-1 Tara's Delight, 4-1 Norstock, 6-1 Gabardoon, 8-1 Colour Scheme. 10-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: C Benstead, 6 winners from 9 runners, 66.7%; J Sutcliffe, 3 from 6, 50%; T Thomson Jones, 5 from 10, 50%; J Pearce, 3 from 11, 27.3%; K Bailey, 7 from 27, 25.9%; D Murray Smith, 5 from 20, 25%.

JOCKEYS: J Tutte, 6 winners from 14 rides, 42.9%; A Tory, 4 from 10, 40%; Dale McKeown, 29 from 87, 33.3%; K Mooney, 5 from 24, 20.8%; J McLaughlin, 3 from 17, 17.6%; M Bosley, 3 from 23, 13%.

2.40 HERRING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,641: 2m 4f) (6)

1	0201	**DRIVING FORCE** 7 (C,F) M McCourt 5-12-2 (5ex)	G McCourt	
2	-PPP	**QUAI D'ORSAY** 24 (D,F,S) F O'Mahony 6-11-7	Mr K Comerford (7)	
3	4011	**WICK POUND** 7 (B,CD) J Old 5-11-6 (5ex)	K Mooney	
4	5/0-	**TALUS** 439 (F) J Bosley 7-11-2	M Bosley	
5	-2F0	**STANDARD ROSE** 14 (S) M Madgwick 8-10-13	D Madgwick (7)	
6	0421	**GOLDEN VINTAGE** 5F (V,F,S) S Dow 5-10-8 (5ex)	A Dicklin (7)	

10-11 Golden Vintage, 7-2 Driving Force, 5-1 Wick Pound, 9-1 Standard Rose, 10-1 Talus, 20-1 Quai d'Orsay.

3.10 CECIL ALDIN HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,812: 2m) (5)

1	-551	**SING THE BLUES** 16 (CD) C Benstead 7-12-0	Dale McKeown	
2	110P	**SOUTH SANDS** 23 (B,F,G) Mrs J Wonnacott 5-11-8	Mrs C Wonnacott	
3	6523	*EDDIE KYBO* 14 (*D,F*) *J Gifford 6-10-11*	*G Rowe (7)*	
4	/00	**PIPICANTE** 18 (D,S) J Bosley 7-10-9	M Bosley	
5	-343	**L'ENCHERE** 24 (D,F,G) G Gracey 6-10-0	Miss Z Davison	

13-8 Eddie Kybo, 5-2 Sing The Blues, 3-1 South Sands, 8-1 *L'Enchere, 10-1 Pipicante.*

3.40 SNAFFLES MAIDEN HURDLE (£1,866: 2m) (14)

1	00	**CONWAY FLYER** 26 Mrs J Pitman 5-11-7	D Gallagher	
2	2/3	**DALRYMPLE** 9 D Grissell 8-11-7	K Mooney	
3		**GROOMSMAN** 87F G Gracey 5-11-7	R Beggan	
4	6/	**SACROSANCT** 757 K Bailey 7-11-7	I Lawrence	
5	02-3	**WINDSOR PARK** 5F (BF

Adelaide may see Boycott toppled from his perch as England's leading scorer in Test cricket

Run mountain peak is beckoning Gower

SIMON BARNES

THE Great Accumulator must be getting nervous. Geoffrey Boycott is the greatest run-getter in the history of England cricket. His Test match aggregate, at the end of his stormy career, was 8,114. That is, unquestionably, an awful lot of runs; runs that were gathered laboriously, avidly, greedily. The Silas Marner of cricket hoarded his runs with a miser's glee.

His existence was dedicated to the obsessive gathering of runs. His life's plan was constructed around the conquest of statistical peaks; objectives that seemed sometimes to clash with the interests of his team. But he made it. He established himself as, statistically at least, the greatest English batsman of all time.

Now he is on the verge of losing that record. One man is within 94 runs of passing Boycott's aggregate. He moves into the fourth Test match in Adelaide tomorrow with 8,021 career runs to his name, and if he continues in the form he has shown in the series thus far, he will overtake Boycott. The man is question is, of course, David Gower. Cricket's spendthrift; cricket's profligate.

How wonderfully absurd all this is. Gower and Boycott would seem overdone if offered as contrasting characters in a soap opera, let alone a novel. They have brought the concept of cavalier and roundhead to something close to its logical conclusion. Gower was made to buzz cricket grounds in a biplane; Boycott was made to disapprove of all forms of high jinks. Boycott wrote "business" on his landing card when on tour. I have never asked Gower what he writes: "pleasure", no doubt.

Both have attracted huge praise, and huge criticism. Gower exasperates, throws his wicket away with idiot shots, seems so often to have left his brain hanging up in his blazer. He appears to have a self-destructive streak, to value his wicket too lightly, and to follow failure with some cheerily self-deprecatory remark.

Boycott suffered the reverse fault; over-valuation of both self and wicket. A young sprog sealed his reputation for all time when he deliberately ran Boycott out during a run chase. The sprog in question was Ian Botham. Boycott was, briefly, England captain. No one ever won the respect of his peers by running out David Gower.

One tends to think of Gower as flashy and impermanent, Boycott as infinitely solid, infinitely durable. As Gower closes in on Boycott's record, it is pleasant to reflect that Gower has, in his own way, been still more solid, still more durable, still more reliable than Boycott. He seems to have been there for ever, exasperating and delighting us by turns.

For Boycott, statistics were a prime motivation. Gower has reached the same approximate statistical height quite incidentally. He has always scoffed at stats. He has accumulated all those runs simply by trying to win cricket matches.

RECORD COMPARISON

Boycott Test record (1964 to 1981-2)

	M	I	NO	R	HS	Avge	100	50
Australia	38	71	9	2945	191	47.50	7	14
West Indies	29	53	5	2205	128	45.94	5	15
New Zealand	15	25	1	916	131	38.16	2	6
India	13	22	3	1084	246*	57.05	4	2
Pakistan	7	10	3	591	121*	84.42	3	3
Total	108	193	23	8114	246	47.73	22	42

Gower Test record (1978 to 1990-1)

	M	I	NO	R	HS	Avge	100	50
Australia	40	73	3	3209	215	45.84	9	12
West Indies	19	38	3	1149	154*	32.82	1	6
New Zealand	13	22	1	1051	131	50.04	4	4
India	24	37	6	1391	200*	44.87	2	6
Pakistan	14	22	1	1035	173*	49.28	2	8
Sri Lanka	2	3	1	186	89	93.00	—	2
Total	112	195	15	8021	215	44.56	18	38

Test matches in which they played together (1978 to 1981-2)

	M	I	NO	R	HS	Avge	100	50
Boycott	31	58	5	2148	155	40.52	6	8
Gower	31	55	5	1993	200*	39.86	3	8

● In the 31 Tests they played together for England their records are remarkably similar, Boycott holding a marginal advantage.

● They first played together in 1978 in Gower's fifth Test match and began their association with a stand of 81 against New Zealand.

There are many ways in which Gower is not like Boycott. Here are some of them. Gower has never betrayed English cricket by going on a rebel tour. Gower has never ducked a tour against the fastest bowlers in the world — Boycott withdrew from the England team during the Lillee and Thomson era. Gower has never set up a revolution in his county cricket club. Gower has never soured a dressing-room.

I am not trying to prove that Gower is good and Boycott bad. Both are phenomenal cricketers. Watching both has been a fascination for 20-odd years. Cricket, like all sports, is a vehicle for a thousand different talents and temperaments. Gower and Boycott offer comparable excellence in achievement and an extreme contrast in nature.

It is a pleasant irony that the statistic most cherished by the figure-worshipping Boycott should be threatened by a man who has never in his life given a hoot for cricket's accountancy. However, this latest statistical milestone is a little different. I think passing it will give Gower a great deal of pleasure. The figures say that you can be excellent without being a bore about it.

Brian Brain, the Gloucestershire seamer, wrote in 1981: "Perhaps Gower will realise that cricket's not always about champagne. It's a bread and butter game." This sums up the anti-Gower view. It is a view that refuses to accept that in life, there are champagne people and bread-and-butter people. Both must fulfil their destinies. Both types are important. I know: I have the statistic to prove it.

A difficult place to force a victory

From ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, ADELAIDE

OF ALL the pitches at all the world's cricket grounds, most teams would nominate the Adelaide Oval as the worst possible venue for a match in which nothing less than victory will do. On the featherbed surface in this city of churches, not even the most ebullient side can count on beating the stalemate.

So it is somehow inevitable, on this tour where so little has gone their way, that England, trailing 2-0, are here for tomorrow's opening day of the fourth Test. The Ashes are already beyond recall and the requirement to win the two remaining Tests for a drawn series would seem excessive to a better and more settled side than Graham Gooch's.

Even this week, when they finally managed to break their first-class duck by beating Queensland, England attracted derision and confusion by courtesy of a misguided prank. They may be showing encouraging signs on the field, but the equilibrium of a single-minded touring party is not among them.

Australia, meanwhile, are nothing if not unified. The shared sense of purpose is striking and, although the Ashes may be safe, complacency is as alien to them as ever. "We want to win this four-nil," their coach, Bob Simpson, said yesterday. His voice was a growl, his eyes a defiant message. "Our boys know the squad to go to the West Indies will be picked during this game," he said. "They won't need any greater incentive."

England, by comparison, are playing largely for pride, the quantity they seem to have found most elusive during this tour. It is too easy to infer that they do not care; individually, of course they do. But all too often, a hint of turbulence has led to a cry of "abandon ship" rather than a willingness to fight through adversity. The batting has been feeble, the bowling and fielding only spasmodically adequate.

In the wake of Tuesday's win on the Gold Coast, Gooch was disinclined to express anything as presumptuous as relief. Instead, he dispassionately repeated that England's cricket "is not up to international standard." It is a phrase to which he has grown accustomed, if not attached. Then, without veiling the threat, he said of his underachievers: "It's up to them. It's their careers that are at stake."

If Gooch has a comfort on the approach to this most attractive of all Australian Tests, spanning the Australia Day celebrations and fringed by champagne tents and social elegance, it is that England should be able to put out their strongest side for the first time in the series.

Gooch and his vice-captain, Allan Lamb, will be starting an overseas Test together for the first time since Trinidad, ten months and a montage of touring setbacks ago. And Angus Fraser, much the best and most consistent of England's bowlers, hopes to be fit to return after his hip injury. He has not played a first-class game for four weeks, but that will be no bar to his inclusion if he gives the word.

Fraser bowled heroically in Melbourne over Christmas. In his absence in Sydney, Devon Malcolm carried the attack. If only the two could fire together, as of course they did early in last year's West Indies series, then they would have prospects of dismantling an Australian batting order which has looked less forbidding than on its 1989 lap of honour around England.

All, plainly, is not lost. Australia, despite the evidence of six wins against England's none in the last nine Ashes Tests, are not so superior as to be impregnable. But to be in the game, England must command the sort of batting depth which has consistently been beyond them.

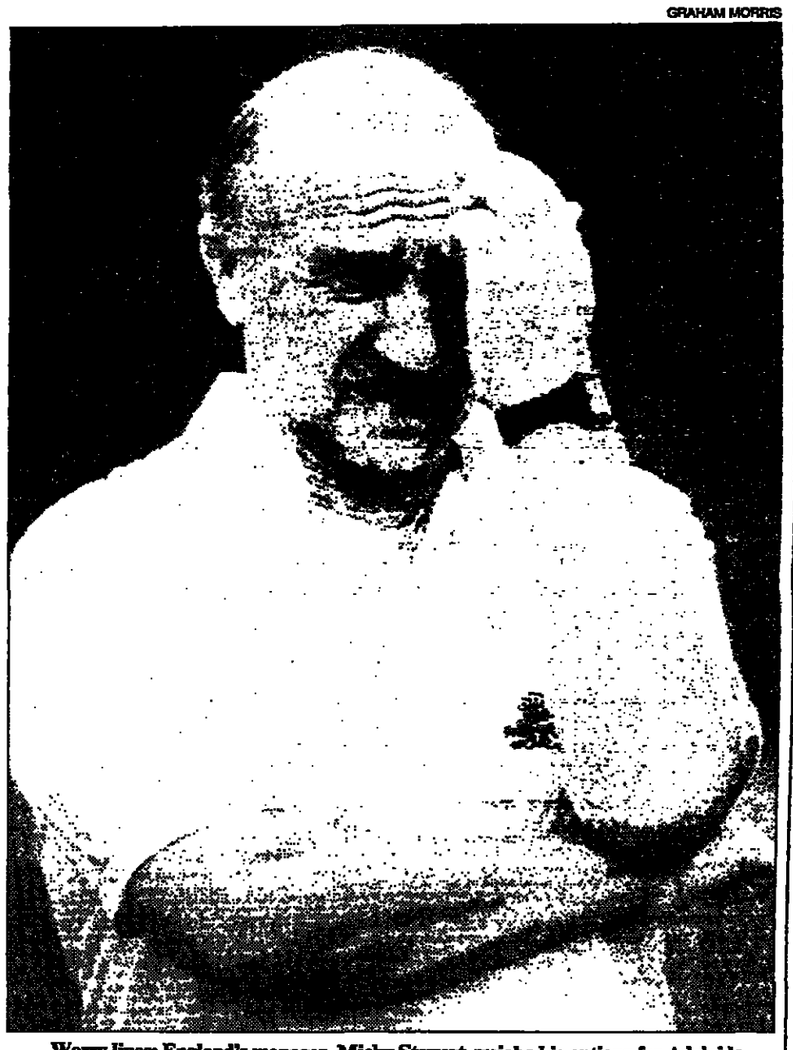
Lamb and Smith, the middle-order muscle of the team, have hardly contributed to the series so far and much depends on them now. Smith, his shattered confidence at least partially restored by a century in Queensland, will probably bat at three and should, as his problems stem so much from anxiety, benefit from getting to the middle sooner.

Logically, however, Adelaide and a restorative victory do not mix. Not one of the last five Tests on the ground has produced a positive result. England have won only once in eight matches here.

One more factor also enters the conspiracy. England's worst cricket tends to be played on the most blameless pitches. Should they collapse on the batsman's balm of Adelaide Oval, their excuses will not lie in the soil.

FIRST TEST: Australia won by 10 wkts.
SECOND TEST: Australia won by 8 wkts.
THIRD TEST: Drawn.
TEST TO COME: Fifth and final match, Perth, February 1 to 6.

GRAHAM MORRIS



Worry lines: England's manager, Micky Stewart, weighs his options for Adelaide

A Test ground where bowlers rarely thrive

By SIMON WILDE

EVENTS at the Adelaide Oval, where the fourth Test starts tomorrow, are usually among the more predictable in cricket. A high quality international batsman might go through his career without getting a century there, but he would be disappointed if he did. England once dismissed Don Bradman there for nought, but the batsman did say the ball from Bedser was the finest he ever received.

It may rain during a Test at Adelaide, as it did in 1974-5, when Underwood took 11 wickets on a damp pitch, but a more usual problem for the captain is keeping his faster bowlers fresh in the heat. It was such a consideration, 20 years ago, that persuaded Illingworth not to enforce the follow-on, and Australia escaped with a draw.

The pitch did help the seamers in 1978-79, when Willis, Hendrick and Botham bowled out Australia for 164 and 160 to give England their only win on the ground in the past 35 years; and in 1965-6, when McKenzie (six for 48), paved the way for an innings victory by Australia. But it is far more likely to enhance its reputation as a fast bowler's graveyard.

For a side to lose at Adelaide, the batting has to break down badly. This last happened to England eight years ago, when they twice collapsed from good positions, and it could happen to them again now.

Even if England had triumphed at Sydney three weeks ago, it must be doubtful whether they could have been successful at Adelaide. There are, in short, few grounds on which it is easier to avoid defeat.

Sri Lankans seek full series

From RICHARD STREETON IN COLOMBO

A PLEA for Sri Lanka to be given a full Test match series in England as soon as possible was made by Ian Pieris, the Sri Lankan cricket board president, at a press conference here last night. The Sri Lankans were disappointed that an unconfirmed tour in 1992, with three Tests, had fallen through and had been replaced by a county tour last summer, followed by another next season with only one Test match.

Pieris said Sri Lanka understood the problems for other countries where arranging Test matches with them was concerned. He added that it had been a pleasant surprise to be contacted less than a week ago to be asked to arrange the present England A visit.

"We hope now that we will surprise you with the depth of our cricket," he said. "Then you can please take the word back to London that the time is very, very close when we should be given a full Test series in your country." The 1991 Test at Lord's, starting on August 22, will be the third Sri Lankan visit when only a single Test match has been arranged for them.

Pieris, a Cambridge Blue, said he was also concerned about over-rates at international level. The tour playing conditions stipulate 90 overs a day, but he hoped the rate could be raised to 96, as in Australia. "I am deeply worried for the paying public, who have to pay more and more to watch less and less cricket," he said. Bob Bennett, the England manager, said England would do everything possible to bowl the stipulated number.

No provision exists in the playing conditions for any system of fines on this tour, though play can continue until the target is achieved. Pieris said the Sri Lankan board was negotiating with local banks for help with the 1.25 million rupees (£17,000) the England A visit would cost, and confirmed that the TCCB had made a contribution to the tour costs, but declined to disclose the amount.

Meanwhile, other fixture commitments ruled out St Thomas's College from staging an England practice match today and this has now been switched to Royal College. Royal's most famous cricket product, Gamini Goonesena, who managed the recent Sri Lankan tour to India and is chairman of the local board coaching committee.

An unexpectedly strong wind brought slight relief yesterday from the relentless Colombo heat and humidity as England again held morning and afternoon practices. Darren Bicknell suffered a badly bruised toe from a yorker by Newport and did not join in the second workout.

Limited attack has a day of hard labour

THE England Under-19 team, deprived through illness and injury of two of its seamers, Weston and Bartle, had to work hard for wickets on the second day of the match against the New Zealand Development Squad XI at Burnside Park, Christchurch (a Special Correspondent writes).

Garner, who shared a second-wicket partnership of 130 with Jemmett, scored a sound 110 to provide the backbone of the home side's 282 for six declared.

England's depleted attack would have done better had the fieldsmen held more of the catches offered. They lost two wickets, those of Radford and Butcher, in extending their first-innings lead of 31 to 99.

SCORES: England Under-19 XI 313 (Smith 65, Crawley 61; Sutzberger 4 for 76) and 68 for 2. New Zealand Development Squad XI 282 for 6 dec (Garner 110, Jemmett 54).

TENNIS

The eyes and name are the same but is the game?

From ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
MELBOURNE

LENDL, Edberg, Becker and McEnroe seems a familiar roll call for the semi-finals of a grand slam. "Just the names you expected," Patrick McEnroe laughed. "It's unbelievable company to be in." Numbers one, two and three and the world's number 113. Unbelievable indeed. None of the top three seeds dropped a set in reaching the semi-finals and Becker, in particular, played with total assurance to beat Guy Forget 6-2, 7-6, 6-3.

"The way he played today he would have killed Lendl or Edberg," Forget said. The words "let alone Patrick McEnroe" were left unsaid.

Yet, nothing in the younger McEnroe's manner suggests that he will be in the least overawed by the No. 2 seed. The only doubts, apart from his inexperience, concern his fitness. He pulled a muscle in his back early in the second set of his quarter-final against Christiano Caratti and had to wear a corset for the rest of the match. With his Stanley Matthews shorts and baggy top, that only added to his general air of dishevelment, though his game is neat enough.

The injury restricted the American's cross-court movement and, more important, his service and, having taken the first two sets, he had to rely on the streak of tenacity which runs through the family to survive 7-6, 6-3, 4-6, 4-6, 6-2 against the dogged Italian. "My back is sore, but it feels better now and I hope to be fine for the doubles," McEnroe, who is due to partner Wheaton in the semi-finals today, said.

McEnroe is a solid, almost agricultural character, unlike his brother in all but the intonation of his voice, his strong blue eyes and, more surprisingly, his record at the Australian Open. At his first attempt, he has equalled the best his brother could manage and, ironically, he is also the lowest ranked player to reach this stage of a grand slam since his brother did so at Wimbledon in 1977. Like John, who answered to Junior, he also has a nickname, Lennie, after a character in an American television series called *Little Rascals*.

Apart from the scares of the injury and a late flourish by Caratti, the match had little to offer other than length. There was certainly plenty of time, during three hours and 36 minutes, to contemplate the elaborate twirls of the Caratti forehand and the equally baroque nature of his service. The latter cost him a vital break and then the match on double-faults. But, though this might prove to be his one moment of glory, he has strong legs and a good heart.

Yzaga's heart has never been his best feature and it let him down again against Edberg. An early service break in each set was all it took to knock the fight out of the first Peruvian to reach a grand slam quarter-final since Alex Olmedo at the Australian Open in 1959. "I gave up mentally too early in the match," Yzaga said.

A far more persistent opponent appeared in Edberg's post-match press conference in the form of Pixie-Anne Wheatley, a comedienne from an off-beat Australian television show called *Fast Forward*. She specialises in asking famous sportsmen daft questions but she fared no better than Yzaga in trying to ruffle the Swede's passive exterior. Lendl, who had another routine win over Goran Prpic, will be the next to try in tomorrow's semi-final. "These are the sort of matches you really look forward to," Edberg said.

Becker, too, must be enjoying himself now. He has had a dream draw, has not had to cope with extreme heat yet and for potentially his most difficult match against Forget, the form player on the tour, the roof was closed. "No wind, no sun, it was perfect for him," the Frenchman said.

Becker has already done better than before at the Australian Open and he now has a novice of dubious fitness between him and the final. Only the surname bothers him. "Yes, I think of the great McEnroe." Not Lennie?

Quarter-final results

MEN'S SINGLES: S Edberg (Swe) bt J Yzaga (Peru), 6-2, 6-3, 6-2; I Lendl (Cz) bt G Prpic (Yug), 6-0, 7-6, 7-6; P McEnroe (US) bt C Caratti (It), 7-6, 6-3, 4-6, 4-6, 6-2; B Becker (Ger) bt G Forget (Fr), 6-2, 7-6, 6-3.
WOMEN'S DOUBLES: G Fernandez (US) and J Novotna (Cz) bt S Appelmans (Bel) and R Reggi (It), 6-3, 6-7, 6-3; P Fendick (US) and M Fernandez (US) bt M Bollegraf (Neth) and L Gregory (SA), 6-4, 6-4; J Hetherington (Can) and K Rinaldi (US) bt N Zvereva and L Savchenko (USSR), 2-6, 6-3, 6-4; M Seles (Yug) and A Smith (US) bt K Jordan (US) and E Smylie (Aus), 4-6, 6-0, 10-8.
MIXED DOUBLES: J Bates and J Durie (GB) bt C Minuussi and M Paz (Arg), 6-3, 7-6; J Fitzgerald and E Smylie (Aus) bt K Evernden (NZ) and R McQuillan (Aus), 6-4, 6-2.

Bates's double success

JEREMY Bates and Jo Durie yesterday reached the semi-finals of the mixed doubles at the Australian Open (Andrew Longmore writes). In doing so, Bates became the first British player since Durie to be in the semi-finals of two events in a grand slam. In 1983, Durie reached the semi-finals of the singles and the doubles at the French Open.

Bates, who is in the men's doubles semi-finals with Kelly Jones, and Durie, the British national singles champions and former Wimbledon mixed doubles champions, beat the Argentine pair of Christian Miniussi and Mercedes Paz and now meet Mark Kratzmann and Pam Shriver in the semi-finals.

In the boys' singles, Paul Robinson, the No. 11 seed, survived a jittery second set before reaching the third round with a 6-1, 5-7, 6-2 win over Lorenzo Pennisi, of Italy.

Women may also play a Grand Slam Cup

By ANDREW LONGMORE

THE Grand Slam Cup could include a separate tournament for the top women players this year. A meeting of the Grand Slam Committee will consider a proposal that the best eight or 12 qualifiers from the four grand slams compete for a separate prize of $3 million in Munich at the same time as the men.

"There are so many parties involved and we have to talk to all of them, but it would be another way of making it a real grand slam and we are certainly thinking about it," Axel Meyer-Wolden, the promoter, said. "If it's going to be this year, though, we will have to rush."

Pressure had been building up from the Women's Tennis Association to have a Grand Slam Cup for their players, but the threat by the International Management Group to organise their own World Cup for the top women players has hastened the need for a decision by the promoters and the International Tennis Federation.

If the women were included, the tournament, which would still be held in Munich, would probably be increased from six to ten days. Consideration will also be given to staging the event in October, a month after the US Open, rather than in December, which many players regard as their month off.

YACHTING

Bertrand takes control

SYDNEY — John Bertrand, representing the United States, maintained his challenge for the Aus$1 million America's Cup-style ANZ 12-metre challenge by overcoming Thommaso Chieffe, of Italy, out of the competition on Sydney Harbour yesterday (Barry Pickthall writes).

Racing in the two Australian 12-metre yachts, Kookaburra II and Kookaburra III, Bertrand had total control of the match to defeat Chieffe 2-0.

Rod Davis, leading Sir Michael Fay's New Zealand syndicate and unbeaten in the series, today meets his compatriot, Chris Dickson, racing for Nippon Challenge, of Japan, after their match was postponed for lack of wind.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

FA Cup
Third round, second replay
Nottm Forest v Crystal Palace (7.30)

POINTS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield Wednesday v Nottingham Forest (7.0).

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: West Ham v Charlton (7.0); Wimbledon v Watford (7.30).

ESSEX THAMESIDE TROPHY: First round: Clapton v Collier Row

RUGBY LEAGUE

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: Second division: Keighley v Bradford Northern (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: Professional promotion (Civic Hall, Brierley Hill, Birmingham).

TABLE TENNIS: European Men's League: Semi-final, second leg: England v Hungary (Bletchley).

Today's television, page 23

Matches played 19th January 1991

LITTLEWOODS POOLS, LIVERPOOL
THIS WEEK'S £3·3 Million
INCLUDES 3 TOP WINNERS OF OVER £135,000
TREBLE CHANCE PAYING 6 DIVIDENDS

24 PTS	£14,910.95	4 DRAWS	£15.75
23 PTS	£379.00	10 HOMES	£17.80
22½ PTS	£116.85	5 AWAYS	£99.55
22 PTS	£22.55	(PAID ON 4 AWAYS)	
21½ PTS	£19.90		
21 PTS	£4.15		

Above dividends to units of 10p
Expenses and Commission 5th January 1991 – 29.1%
All dividends subject to rescrutiny.
Treble Chance dividends to units of 1p.

LITTLEWOODS HI BREAK DOUBLE CHANCE SNOOKER POOL
SEE FEB 2ND COUPON FOR DETAILS

ATHLETICS

Christie and Johnson may clash in Seville

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN will have to find a new crop of winners if the championship year is to begin with the kind of success the nation has become used to. It came to light yesterday that only Linford Christie of Britain's nine European champions has any intention of contesting the world indoor championships in Seville, from March 8 to 10.

Unhappy though he says he is at appearing on a track with Ben Johnson, that match now looks likely. A 60 metres race for which some promoters would pay tens of thousands of pounds, Seville may get for free. Christie said that he was considering doubling up and running the 200 metres as well.

Christie's anger has been growing at what he described as "the Ben Johnson show." He had received offers. "But I do not want any part of it," Christie said. "I have heard so much about Ben Johnson in the last few weeks, but what I have not heard is an apology. I have not heard him apologise for the damage he has done to the sport."

Christie's first race of the season will be in the Pearl Assurance AAA championships the weekend after next. Of Britain's other European champions, neither Steve Backley (javelin) nor Kriss Akabusi (400 metres hurdles) can compete because their events are not held indoors; John Regis (200 metres), Roger Black (400 metres), Tom McKean (800 metres), Colin Jackson (110 metres hurdles), Paul Sanders (4 by 400 metres relay) and Yvonne Murray (3,000 metres) are all concentrating on preparation for the outdoor season.

SQUASH RACKETS

Gregory triumph causes few ripples

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

THE advance of Paul Gregory to the British title by defeating Simon Parke, 9-4, 7-9, 9-2, 9-0, in 70 minutes in the final of the Fight for Sight national championship at Eldon Square, Newcastle, on Tuesday, will have surprised all but those who have watched his laconic but uncompromising professional progress in recent years.

Apart from a stunningly adventurous win in the British doubles, two seasons ago, and a hard-won victory in the outdoor Penang Open, a year earlier, Parke, from south London, has not lifted a trophy since taking the Dunlop Champion of Champions title for club players in 1985.

He has left his mark, however, on numerous international tournaments and those who have faced him in qualifying rounds, occasional quarter-finals and the odd semi-final, on virtually every stop of the circuit, will be nodding their heads in understanding of the news from Eldon Square.

Their equal understanding of the women's result will be of a different nature. Martine Le Moignan won her third British title by defeating Suzanne Horner, 9-7, 9-1, 10-8, in 42 minutes and settled a battle which has continued around the world since Horner put Le Moignan out of the semi-finals last year.

Horner and Le Moignan are mature veterans of the England world championship team, and easily survived a promising junior challenge which nevertheless swallowed up the injured No. 1 seed, Lisa Opie, and the defending champion, Lucy Soutter. The performance of Le Moignan in the final was strong and rhythmic after a troublesome calf injury.

Gregory, the No. 5 seed, playing with a borrowed racket at Eldon Square, came through a half reduced by the withdrawal of Peter Marshall, the No. 1 seed, because of food poisoning.

The No. 6 seed, Parke, aged 18 and the junior champion of Britain and the world, advanced with a splendid victory over Bryan Beeson.

Exploiting that easier progress, Gregory absorbed the best of the skilful Parke attack in two opening games, which lasted 38 minutes, and then applied his own pressure inexorably.

His style lacks elegance, but his wrist is strong and subtle. Using a grip so thick most other players can span it, he laces a fast, hard, deep game with sudden long power kills, delicate straight drops and disguised angles. Allowed into the front court, as he was increasingly by the tiring junior champion, he can crash full-blooded kills short and dead to the nick on either hand.

RESULTS: Finals: Men: P Gregory (Surrey) bt S Parke (Yorks), 9-4, 7-9, 9-2, 9-0. Women: M Le Moignan (Hants) bt S Horner (Yorks), 9-7, 9-1, 10-8.

Sports Letters appear tomorrow

ROWING

Applications for coach being invited

THE Amateur Rowing Association has shelved the appointment of a "chief coach" for the heavyweight men (Mike Rosewell writes). Part-time coaches for the lightweight men and the women have been announced, but the more demanding heavyweight post remains vacant.

Brian Armstrong, the international rowing manager, proposed to the executive committee last week that the only solution was to appoint a full-time coach for the heavyweights, something which David Tanner, the men's part-time coach last year, recommended in his resignation letter.

The executive is now inviting applications for an 18-month appointment until the Olympic Games in Barcelona.

The funding for the job, which is said to carry a £20,000 negotiable salary, will come from adjustments to the international budget.

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FOOTBALL

Woking preparing the way towards long-term success

By WALTER GAMMIE

FA CUP

NEVER mind Everton and the bright lights, the test for Woking football club will come in the months after Sunday's FA Cup fourth-round tie at Goodison Park. Whether they take a great leap forward and establish themselves in the higher echelons of the non-League game will be a fairer reflection of the club's ambition and the abilities of its players, management and administrators.

The 4-2 triumph at West Bromwich Albion and the three goals scored by Tim Buzaglo have already earned an imperishable place in the tales of the unexpected thrown up by the matching of part-timers and professionals in the Cup.

Even if Woking lose 8-0 to Howard Kendall's team, as Sutton United did at Norwich after their 2-1 win over Coventry City two seasons ago, such a defeat would not detract one whit from the achievements of Woking already this season.

Yet lows have an uncanny way of following highs, as evidenced by Woking's own recent history and the frictions aroused by the unaccustomed attention paid to the club that culminated in an unhappy 2-0 home defeat by Basingstoke in a Vauxhall League premier division match last Saturday.

Geoff Chapple, the manager, said: "We're going to find it hard after Sunday. A couple of the players are going to find it very difficult coming back down to earth. We can see ourselves sliding down the table. On Saturday, before the match, everybody was talking about everything except Basingstoke. I could not believe it."

Harmony has been restored to the camp, but not until after Chapple and Fred Callaghan, the coach, had cleared the air poisoned by insinuations about who was receiving what from whom as the media vultures worked their way through the latest giant-killers.

Some tales were simply funny, like giving Buzaglo the nickname "Buzza", when he is known as "Scuffer" for his habit of playing in a pair of boots a size too big.

Others, like the kite flown that Andy Parr, a midfield player serving a jail sentence, would be let out for the day to play at Everton, were plainly ludicrous.

Caution is a natural watchword among long-serving officials who saw Woking build a successful team that enjoyed a memorable encounter with Swansea City in the FA Cup in 1978-9 and reached the semi-finals of the FA Trophy in 1979-80.

When Chapple took over as manager in 1984-5, Woking had slipped out of the premier division and lost their first eight matches in the first division. His first match in charge, against Clapton, was watched by a crowd of 87. He failed to save the club from relegation but only on goal difference.

Good husbandry and the ethos of self-help that sustains clubs outside the Football League helped Woking climb back towards prosperity. They own their ground and leased land for a snooker centre, gymnastics hall and indoor tennis centre. The growing pains of an altogether bigger club are clear.

A sum of £31,000 is in the bank from the match at West Bromwich, but the bulldozer that moved in to do work on the ground this week has been paid for by Leslie Gosden, the club's 87-year-old president.

Phil Ledger, the club secretary, promises the club will plough money into improvements and Chapple said: "If I want £10,000 to get one or two new players, the chairman is very, very helpful like that. He does not like that, mind you. He's not going to give me £100,000. He will back my judgment. He did with Mark Biggins, Tim Read, and Stewart Mitchell."

Chapple, meanwhile, knows the forthcoming Cup match is not going to be a rerun of the win over West Bromwich. The side will be set sterner defensive tasks. "If we keep out Nevin, Sheedy will do something; if he does not, Beagrie will come through. If we keep those three quiet, McCall or Ebbrell will come forward."

And yet . . . the prospect of another surprise will draw 8,500 supporters to follow Woking's banner, among them West Bromwich followers won over in defeat three weeks ago. The romance of the Cup can truly heal all divisions.

RUGBY UNION

IAN STEWART



All hands on: Murray, of Australia, in a determined burst at Twickenham yesterday

Australia's grand finale

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

England Schools 3
Australian Schools 8

JUDGMENT upon whether these Australians are the best in an impressive line going back to 1974 must be suspended upon *the basis of yesterday's game at* Twickenham, their tour finale. They will be happy to let their results speak for themselves — 12 games, 12 wins, including, for the first time, victory over a representative team from each of the four home countries, a grand slam of a kind in which Peter Jorgensen, their impressive wing, scored in each game and ended the tour with 14 tries.

Victory by two tries to a penalty goal over an England 18-group side whose time together has been strictly limited was not the flowing adventure the Australians would have enjoyed. That was partly because the big England pack denied them so much set-piece ball, partly because at the end of a demanding tour they must have been tired, particularly after the unscheduled interruptions to their itinerary during the last week.

It proved a notable occasion, though, for Craig Polla-Mounter, the captain. An injury against Ireland has affected his tour and he was not an original selection against England; but when Murray left the field in the first half, Polla-Mounter came *into the centre* and, with his second touch of the ball, scored the try which gave Australia the lead after a half-hour in which they had scarcely had sight of the English 22.

England's problem was not possession, far from it; they *dominated the lineout* and shunted the Australian pack backwards time and again. But they were satisfied with a limited game, kicking from half back, and when they came to run the ball in the final quarter could find no way round an aggressive Australian defence, despite the industry of Diprose and Rollitt.

Such a policy was understandable given their lack of familiarity and the readjustment to the back division necessary after both centres had been injured before the interval. But Abadom hinted at what might have been and Stimpson injected considerable thrust from full back; unfortunately, the Yorkshire youngster could not kick the goals which might have won the game.

His first kick soared high and handsome between the posts but though he had the range (twice from 50 metres), he lacked the accuracy on three subsequent occasions and Burke was narrowly adrift with a final effort.

If Australia were to win it had to be from long range and they had the capacity for that. Polla-Mounter's try capped an attack inspired by Jorgensen, supported by Kelaher and featuring cool heads in the final passing movement which sent the captain over.

The same player kicked his side to a lineout, 12 metres from the England line, at which Finau made the charge and Rauluni's long pass freed Jorgensen, who made a beeline for the corner and his seventh international tour try.

SCORERS: England Schools: Penalty goal: Stimpson. Australian Schools: Tries: Polla-Mounter, Jorgensen.
ENGLAND SCHOOLS: T Stimpson (Silcoates); J Abadom (Mayfield College), N Ryan (Mount St Mary's; rep: S Monks, Dulwich), D Edwards (Pocklington; rep: G Beckinsall, South Bristol College), A Maddocks (Plymouth College); P Back (Epsom College), M Dawson (RGS High Wycombe); D Crompton (Exeter College), M McCarthy (Leeds GS), S Thompson (Durham), A Diprose (Campion), C Simpson (Hills Road Vtn Form College), S Mather (Arnold), R Hutton (St Benedict's), E Rollitt (St Paul's).
AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS: R Graham; P Jorgensen, M Burke, S Murray (rep: C Polla-Mounter, J Turner; S Bowen, J Rauluni; N Grattan, T Cole, S Wilson, D Kelaher, H Williams, S Finau, A Cregan, S Pitcher).
Referee: B Stirling (Ireland).
AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS TOUR RESULTS: beat Netherlands, 46-0; beat West Wales, 32-7; beat East Wales, 32-7; beat Wales, 44-0; beat Leinster, 22-13; beat Ulster, 20-6; beat Ireland, 13-9; beat Munster, 14-9; beat Scotland Youth, 17-12; beat London and South West, 20-4; beat Harlequins under-21, 6-3; beat England, 8-3. Record: P 12, W 12, L 0, for 275, against 76.

SKIING

Stumm's favourite son puts a small village on the map

From BRIAN JAMES IN SAALBACH

THEY stood out like a handful of mud thrown against a flag; amid the most colourfully-clad crowd in any sport, a huddle of men and women in drab browns and beiges topped by broad country faces. Until Stefan Eberharter appeared, and then they erupted.

The family and friends of Eberharter had much to celebrate. So little known, the Austrian team brochure gave him a one-line entry, noting just his date and place of birth 21 years ago, he had out-skied the sport's best all-rounders to win the gold medal in the super-giant slalom.

Sophisticated timing devices for this world championship filled in more details. Eberharter had averaged nearly 87 kilometres per hour on his run, and won by 1.54 seconds, or the equivalent of 36 metres, from yet another little-fancied youngster, Kjetil Aamodt, aged 19, of Norway. These were huge margins for a speed event taking roughly one-and-a-half minutes for a little less than one-and-a-half miles.

Amid the uproar beneath the hand-drawn banners of Eberharter's fan club, we were able to learn a little more of the favourite son of the village of Stumm (population 1,200), set at the foot of a Tyrolean valley. The son of the keeper of the village's 12-bed inn, he was taught to ski by his father, who actually wanted the boy to grow up to be a tennis champion.

"Stefan is almost best at everything," said a chap called Hannes, spokesman for the club. "Skiing down our hill he is first. Running up he is first. In class he is best. I know him well. He lives 50 *metres* from me. Really, he lives 50 metres from *everybody* in Stumm. It is not a big place."

For giving the host country its first gold medal winner, Stumm is likely to become instantly better known. So will Eberharter, who relaxes from the pressures of speed-ski training by going paragliding!

"It will take weeks, maybe months before I can grasp this. My life will not change. But I will be better known," he said. He owned up that Austria's training over the Christmas break on this slope, especially getting to know its tricky wooded knoll that threw so many off balance, helped his run. Such knowledge is nothing without the grit to use it.

But not only members of the party from Stumm had backed him at surprisingly low odds of 6-1. Shrewd money had spotted potential. In two World Cup super-giant races this season Eberharter had finished thirteenth, and third; his training times had been impressive. That dismissive entry in the team brochure had gone too early to the printer.

Eberharter's victory came from a race that needed this twist. On a course that downhillers had said was too tricky, and slalomists thought too fast (proving, of course its suitability), only Piccard of France, taking the bronze, skied to his form.

The hero of 24 hours earlier, Girardelli, was sixteenth and finished the timed-equivalent of a hopeless 75 metres behind, but in good company with fancied men like Mader, Heinzer, Mayer and Skaadal.

"Please don't leave. There are many excellent racers to come," called the course announcer shortly after Eberharter's descent. This knowledgable crowd kept right on walking. With the sun dropping below the hill, and the piste hardening, survival was the best the deluge of colourful entrants from flatter bits of the earth, like Mexico, Cyprus and the Lebanon, could expect.

No Swiss was above sixth, no Italian above ninth, and the three best Swedes all floundered, leaving Wallner, a slalomist, to come from the 35th starting place into fifth as the best man for a nation tipped for a medal.

Commendable also was Duncan's effort to finish 35th after starting 57th. Alas, his three British team-mates, the Bell brothers and Gaylord, were listed among the forty, of 116 starters, who failed to finish.

RESULT: 1, S Eberharter (Austria), 1min 26.73sec; 2, K-A Aamodt (Nor), 1:28.27; 3, F Piccard (Fr), 1:28.55; 4, O C Furuseth (Nor), 1:28.83; 5, J Wallner (Swe), 1:28.96; 6, S Locher (Switz), 1:29.06; 7, M Hangl (Switz), 1:29.13; 8, U Kaelin (Switz), 1:29.32; 9, K Ghedina (It), 1:29.39; 10, F Heinzer (Switz), 1:29.42; 11, J-L Cretier (Fr), 1:29.44; 12, G Mader (Austria), 1:29.60; 13, M Wasmeier (Ger), 1:29.71; 14, A Mair (It), 1:29.78; 15, H Tauscher (Ger), 1:29.88; 16, M Girardelli (Lux), 1:29.95; 17, R Crossan (Can), 1:30.19; 18, A Schiele (Fr), 1:30.23; 19, H Mayer (Austria), 1:30.29; 20, G Marxer (Liech), 1:30.41. British placings: 35, R Duncan, 1:33:30. Failed to finish: M Bell, G Bell, W Gaylord.

ICE SKATING

Conway example to fallen Cousins

From JOHN HENNESSY IN SOFIA

STEVEN Cousins, the British champion, was unable to emulate the achievement of Joanne Conway in the European championships here yesterday. Whereas Conway finished third in the original programme section, he made a serious error on the combination jump and dropped to eleventh place.

The winner of this section was Viktor Petrenko, the *defending champion. A fellow* Soviet skater, Viacheslav Zagorodniuk, was third, with Petr Barna, of Czechoslovakia, sandwiched between them.

Petrenko looked every inch a champion from the moment he presented an awesome triple axel in combination with a double toe loop. A triple lutz followed and the other mandatory jump, a double axel, was easy for him. It was a masterly performance, which brought 13 marks of 5.9 from the judges, two of them from Wendy Utley, of Great Britain.

Barna is not among the new breed of triple axel jumpers but his purity of line and edge is ample compensation. He did triple lutz in the combination and triple loop as his other optional jump.

Cousins's combination, *which is the centrepiece of any* original programme, was to have been the triple lutz to double toe loop, but he never got near the double, having strayed too near the barrier, perhaps in landing the triple. There was a single toe loop *somewhere there but that does* not satisfy the strict rules of this discipline and demands a heavy penalty.

Conway has a promising draw for the final tonight of the women's championship. She skates third, which gives her just enough time to gather her concentration after the warm-up and spares her too long a wait in the dressing room. The leader, Evelyn Grossmann, of Germany, follows Conway, and Surya Bonaly, from France, who is second, precedes her.

RESULTS: Second day: Men's original programme: 1, V Petrenko (USSR) 0.5pts; 2, P Barna (Czech) 1.0; 3, V Zagorodniuk (USSR) 1.5; 4, P Candeloro (Fr) 2.0; 5, E Millot (Fr) 2.5; 6, A Urmenov (USSR) 3.0. British placing: 11, S Cousins 5.5.

GOLF

Lyle plans to block mistakes

PHOENIX, Arizona — Hope springs eternal in the unsuccessful golfer's breast, and Sandy Lyle, even though he has won the Open and the Masters and four more American tournaments, is no exception (John Ballantine writes).

The Scot, aged 32, whose decline from greatness over the last two years has been as dramatic as Tony Jacklin's in the Seventies, tees off early today in the Phoenix Open hoping that an unusual piece of practice gear that his coach, David Leadbetter, handed him in Florida last week will inspire a revival.

"It's a 4in x 2in block of wood 18in long," Lyle said. "In practice, I place it just behind my ball and pointing at the target. My first action on the backswing is to push the wood straight back with my club head. This creates resistance, enables *me to slow down* the take-away, keep the club head low and stops me opening the club face too early. I have been using it for ten days now."

SNOOKER

Longworth excels to extend White

By STEVE ACTESON

IF JIMMY White is to win his third successive title and the £200,000 first prize in the Mita world masters at Birmingham, he will look back on his 8-6 victory yesterday over Steve Longworth as the greatest test so far of the less carefree approach he has adopted to his chosen profession.

White, the fourth seed, has been beating people with ease since this event began a week ago last Sunday. But Longworth, aged 42 and ranked 57th in the world, provided an unexpectedly difficult examination in his first appearance in the quarter-finals of a *big tournament.*

Longworth turned professional after winning the English amateur championship in 1984 and made his only serious impact when he beat White in the quarter-finals of the English professional championship that year.

Six months ago however, after coaching from Chris Henry, he discovered he was not hitting the cue ball in the middle and has been practising six hours a day to rectify the fault.

During this tournament his hard work has finally paid dividends and he will take home £15,000. But it might have been twice as much at least, for he led 4-1. White then compiled runs of 58, 113, 43, 41, 36 and 40 to *lead 5-4 but* Longworth immediately struck back with a break of 103, his third century of the tournament.

Further efforts by White of 94 and 110, his ninth century so far, took him 7-6 ahead but Longworth appeared set to win the fourteenth frame, only to leave a red when leading 38-12 and so give White the opportunity to settle the match.

Jim Wych and Brady Gollan, of Canada, made the highest-ever combined break, one of 240 made up of Gollan's 129 and Wych's 111, while beating the third seeds, John Parrott and Neal Foulds, by 7-1 to reach the final of the men's doubles.

Nottingham pave their way to quarter-finals

By MARK HERBERT

Manchester Univ 7
Nottingham Univ 33

NOTTINGHAM University outplayed *Manchester to earn a* place against Exeter in the quarter-finals of the Universities Athletic Union championships at The Firs yesterday.

After grinding down the home defence, Nottingham were rewarded with three late tries to win by four goals, two penalty goals and a dropped goal to a try and a dropped goal.

Nottingham led 9-3 after a nervous first quarter in which Pritchard's kicking was accurate and Budge's was not. The visitors controlled the lineouts and the loose, but it took the forwards until half-time to wrest control in the set pieces.

Theo, Manchester suffered the indignity of being shoved over their own line on their putin; Ratcliffe, the Nottingham scrum-half, scored.

That paved the way for a grim second half for Manchester. Hawkins and Tinubu provided some resistance, the latter threatening whenever he had the ball, but Nottingham ruled.

Ratcliffe broke a spell of determined home-defending with a weaving run which gave Scarisbrick a simple try, then the scrum-half added his second from another pushover.

Yam gained a consolation touch down for Manchester before Nottingham sealed the match in superb fashion. Webster, from his 22, broke then fed Flint, his fellow England *Universities centre.* Tinubu stopped Flint just short but Samford took the pass off his heel and wrong-footed Budge before scoring under the posts.

SCORERS: Manchester University: Try: Yam. Dropped goal: Ashworth. Nottingham University: Tries: Ratcliffe (2), Scarisbrick, Samford. Conversions: Pritchard, Flint (2), Webster. Penalty goals: Pritchard (2). Dropped goal: Webster.
MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY: A Budge; K Tinubu, J Chesworth, J Wood, K Mbanaswe; T Ashworth, R Yam; A Lightwood, S Tyler, D Llewarch, S Taylor, A Bean; T Hilton, M Hawkins, G Sturgess.
NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY: P Samford; J Flint, O Pritchard, (rep: S Moy), J Webster; S Boydell; M Burt, P Ratcliffe; J Croft, A Fields, H Christophers, I Scarisbrick, R Craig, R Sussum, G Collier.
R Sear.
Referee: T Dunn (Manchester).

Step forward for women's involvement

By DAVID HANDS

WOMEN'S rugby takes a further step forward at representative level when a Scottish Clubs XV meets Wales at Caerleon, near Newport, on Saturday morning. It is the nearest Scotland's women have come so far to a fully representative team — previously, only students have come together in a combined side.

For Wales, whose trials weekend earlier this month was badly hit by the weather, it will be a *final opportunity to assess* players likely to be chosen to meet England at Waterloo on February 10.

It is hoped to arrange a B international between Wales and England on March 8 as both countries prepare for the women's World Cup *in April*, a tournament for which New Zealand have now confirmed their entry.

WALES: S Finney (Newport); M Williams (Blaenau Gwent), P Evans (Swansea Uplands), E Davies (Richmond), S Phillips (Cardigan); A Bassett (Saracens), E Ladd (Cardiff), B Davies (Wasps), B Evans (Cardiff Institute of HE), M Bowen (Newport), H Carey (Swansea Uplands), K Eaves (Newport), H Davies (Richmond), J Morgan (Pontypool), L Burgess (Saracens).

Malone inspires Loughborough

By MICHAEL STEVENSON

Loughborough Univ 22
Bristol University 4

A MATURE and accomplished performance for Loughborough University by the Irish under-21 stand-off half, Malone, eased them impressively through the challenge round of the UAU championship with a home victory over Bristol University by a goal and four tries to a try.

Handling and kicking immaculately, *Malone, Loughborough's* tactical general, looked a player of high class throughout, as indeed did the former England schools scrum half, Bracken, for Bristol; he had a storming game in all departments and certainly did not deserve *to be on the losing side.*

Playing initially with the advantage of wind and slope, Loughborough pressed, but it was some time before they scored. Finally, Malone's long pass missed out Johnson and Irving broke, fed Dossett for Billington's momentum to carry him over the line. Malone converted from wide out.

Having made the first try, Irving scored the second. Billington came close to a try on the left before he was submerged by the cover, but the ruck was *won swiftly and Loughborough* swung the ball back left to right for Irving to score near the corner flag, putting his side 10-0 ahead at the interval.

Bristol stormed the Loughborough line early in the second half, but their defence held bravely and a *glorious* counter-attack created a try for Malone.

Johnson came within inches of a try to initiate a period of intense pressure, which ended when Peters scored on the blind side of a ruck. Bristol's try, *scored by Mitchell, followed*, but another Irving break made a second Billington try.

SCORERS: Loughborough University: Tries: Billington (2), Irving, Malone, Peters. Conversions: Malone. Bristol University: Try: Mitchell.
LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY: C Dossett; M Wanstall, S Johnson, J Irving, A Billington; N Malone, P Miles; M Ireland, A Read, N Lowton, J Overall, A Millward, D Jones, N Richardson, E Peters.
BRISTOL UNIVERSITY: I McLeod; R Turnbull, L Megga, J Andrews, P Mitchell; A House, K Bracken; C Agnew, M Patteson, A Cassady, K Seacharan, A Kloss, G Bulstrode, R Watts, D Bennett.
Referee: D Williams (Leicestershire).

Ban appeal rejected

A TWO-year ban for steroid use on Randy *Barnes, the shot put* world record holder, has been upheld by the Athletics Congress, the governing body of the sport in America, according to documents released yesterday.

The panel said Barnes had "presented no clear and *convincing evidence" that his* drug test samples were tampered with last summer in Malmo, Sweden.

CYCLO-CROSS: Danny De Bie, the former world champion, who allegedly used a condom filled with urine to avoid a positive dope test, was suspended for six months by the Belgian cycling union yesterday.

TABLE TENNIUS: The England No. 1, Carl Prean, plays his first international in this country this season in the European league semi-final second leg against Hungary at Bletchley today.

VOLLEYBALL: English brothers, Vince and Gary Joyce, will play in the World Beach Tournament on Ipanima Beach, Brazil, from February 19 to 24.

TENNIS: For the second time in three days, rain yesterday prevented play in the Remington British Father and Son and Mother and Daughter championships in La Manga, Spain.

FOOTBALL: Les Gore, former manager of Leyton Orient and chief scout of Charlton Athletic, has died. He was 77.

CYCLING: Rudy Dhaenens, the world professional road racing champion, leads his new team, Panasonic, in the Kellogg's Tour of Britain from August 6 to 11.

BASKETBALL

Recent history may assist

KINGSTON play Leverkusen tonight in the the final pool of the European Champions' Cup, and although they are bottom of the table, the English side may have a psychological advantage (Nicholas Harling writes). Although Leverkusen emerged victorious from the European Cup Winners' Cup tie between the two clubs three years ago, *Kevin Cadle's squad won the* day in last year's final of the world invitation.

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FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta Hawks 118, Miami Heat 107; New Jersey Nets 92, Charlotte Hornets 90; Los Angeles Lakers 116, Orlando Magic 96; San Antonio Spurs 106, Los Angeles Clippers 100; Seattle SuperSonics 132, Milwaukee Bucks 109; Golden State Warriors 123, Houston Rockets 118, Portland Trail Blazers 123, Phoenix Suns 118.
EUROPEAN MEN'S CUP-WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-finals: Group A: Bologna 88 Oyonnaxe (Por) 68; Red Star Belgrade 91, PAOK Salonica 75.
WOMEN'S RONCHETTI CUP: Quarter-finals: Group C: CSKA Moscow 88, Racing Club Paris 75.

BOWLS

COUNTY MATCHES: Berkshire 155, Hampshire 104; Middlesex 133, Cambridgeshire 104.

CRESTA RUN

MARSDEN CUP: 1, M Mercier (Switz), 163.38; 2, C A Hibbert (Switz), 173.08; 3, J L Secombe (GB), 180.29; 4, C A Renwick (GB), 182.23; 5, J C L Lucas (GB), 188.67.

CRICKET

WELLINGTON, New Zealand: Wellington 295 (M D Crowe 101, G F Larsen 57; H C P Ramaneyaka 4-78) and 46-0; Sri Lankans 240-9 dec (G P Labrooy 52).
RED STRIPE CUP: St John's, Antigua: Barbados 333 and 252; Leeward Islands 216 and 111. Barbados won by 258 runs. Basseterre, St Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago 377 and 168 (B C Lara 98; I Allen 7-48); Windward Islands 242 and 162 (P V Simmons 6-24). Trinidad and Tobago won by 141 runs. Kingston, Jamaica 242 and 249-9 dec (P J L Dujon 77 not out); Guyana 217 and 192-6. Match drawn.
ADELAIDE: Club Cricket Conference 163-6; Kensington District 154-5. Kensington District won by 5 wickets.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Kent Under-17 213 and 193, Hawke's Bay (NZ) 173-9 and 160-8 – match drawn; Rotorua (NZ) 258-4, Kent Under-17 157-7.

SNOOKER

NEC, Birmingham: Mita World Masters: Third Black and Decker men's singles: Third round: M Hallett (Eng) bt S Francisco (SA), 6-1; Fourth round: J White (Eng) bt B Bolton (Can), 7-0; J Wattana (Thai) bt J Johnson (Eng), 7-4; D Fu Francisco (SA) bt T Chappel (Wales), 7-4; S Davis (Eng) bt A Meo (Eng) 7-5, T Griffiths (Wales) bt W Thorne (Eng) 6-7, 5 T Griffiths (Wales) bt J Birch (Eng) 7-4, A Drago Longworth (Eng) bt G Wilkinson (Eng) 7-5, Black (Malta) bt G Wilkinson (Eng) 7-5. Black's doubles: Third round: Quarter-finals: J Parrott and N Foulds (Eng) bt P Davies (Wales) and R Lawler (Eng) 6-1; J White and C Walch (Eng) bt J Wattana (Thai) and S Smith (Eng) 5-3. Ribbed doubles: Quarter-finals: S Hendry (Scot) and S Hilyard (Eng) bt D Morgan (Wal) and K Shaw (Eng), 4-0; M Bennett and S Dick (Wales) bt P Elston (Eng) and J Gillespie (Scot), 4-2. Women's doubles: Quarter-finals: A Farren (Eng) and R Corr (N Ire) bt S Smith and J Nixon (Eng), 3-1; M Fisher and T Davidson (Eng) bt L Lucas (Aus) and L Field (NZ) 3-1; A Fisher and S Hayers (Eng) bt J Banks and G Apan (Eng), 3-0; L Horsburgh (Scot) and S Dick (Wales) bt F Loves (Aus) and J Kelly (Eire), 3-0.

FOOTBALL

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Fulham 1, Queen's Park Rangers 2.
ITALIAN LEAGUE: AC Milan 1, Pisa 0; Sampdoria 2, AS Roma 1.
ITALIAN CUP: Third round, second leg: Turin 1, Internazionale 0 (agg: 2-2; Turin qualify for quarter-finals on away goals rule).
TRYNADORNA: Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Cup: Hungary 4, Zambia 1.
Late results on Tuesday
BARCLAYS LEAGUE: Second division: Charlton Athletic 3, Notts County 1.
ZENITH DATA SYSTEMS CUP: Quarter-finals, cards: Everton 4, Sunderland 1; Leeds United 2, Derby County 1; Sheffield United 0, Manchester City 2. Quarter-final, south: Ipswich Town 2, Oxford United 1.
LEYLAND DAF CUP: First rounds: Bradford City 3, Hartlepool 2; Burnley 3, Stockport County 2 (aet; 3-3 after 90 minutes); Halifax Town 0, Blackpool 1; Wigan Athletic 2, Rochdale 0; York City 1, Bury 2.
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Chelmsford Town 1, Altrincham 4; Macclesfield 2, Stafford Rangers 1; Nantwich Victoria 1, Runcorn 4.
B & Q SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Second division: Alloa 1, Strathclyde 0; East Stirling 2, Dumbarton 1.
SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena 4, Ards 1; Glenavon 2, Bangor 0.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Liverpool 0, Newcastle United 0; Manchester City 1, Leicester City 1. Second division: Grimsby Town 0, Barnsley 5; Middlesbrough 3, Oldham Athletic 4.
OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Chelsea 6, Millwall 1; Luton Town 0, Portsmouth 2.
VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Staines 1, Wivenhoe 2. Second division north: Billericay 1, Purfleet 3; Hertford Town 0, Tilbury 2. League Trophy: Barton Rovers 0, Maldon Vale 5; Hornchurch 0, Thetford 1; Newbury Town 1, Banstead Athletic 0; Ware 1, Abingdon Town 2; Berkhamsted Town 1, Hampton 2 (aet); Collier Row 1, Vauxhall Motors 2 (aet).
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Gloucester 3, Moor Green 2; Rushden 4, Bromsgrove 1. Postponed: Farnborough v Worcester. Leamington Windows Cup: Third round, second leg: Dorchester 0, Salisbury 0 (1-1 on agg; Dorchester win on away goals). Fourth round, first leg: Burton 1, Tamworth 2.
WEEKLY WINNER LEAGUE: Presidents Cup: North Ferriby 0, Oswestr Town 1; Belper 1, Matlock MW 2. League Cup: Stocksbridge PS 0, Rotherham Collieries 3.
BERKS & BUCKS SENIOR CUP: First round: Hungerford Town 2, Abingdon United 3. Replay: Marlow 2, Windsor and Eton 0.
KENT SENIOR CUP: Second round: Bromley 1, Dover Athletic 4; Gravesend and Northfleet 4, Erith and Belvedere 2.
SUSSEX SENIOR CUP: Third round: Replays: Lewes 2, Southwick 3 (aet).
EAST ANGLIAN CUP: Clacton 2, Stowmarket 0.
ATS LANCASHIRE TROPHY: Southport 2, Skelmersdale 2.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Aldine under-18 county championship: Sussex 0, Surrey 1. Burnley under-19 Cup: First round: Replay: Westville High School 1, Suffolk College 7. English Schools Trophy: Fifth round: Wigan 0, Sunderland 1. Other match: Westminster 3, Sevenoaks 0.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Cambridge University 30, RAF 12.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Civil Service 18, Army, 42 (at Cirencester).
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Welsh under-15 county championship: South Glamorgan 3, West Glamorgan 12.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division: Salford 50, Runcorn 6. Postponed: Halifax v Barrow; Ryedale-York v Swinton.
SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: First division: Leigh 18, Leeds 24.

RUGBY FIVES

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Old Bedfordians 65, Blosham 39; Ruffish 122, Christ's Hospital 109; Felsted 95, Jesters 87.

HOCKEY

CRYSTAL PALACE: Buttermere Indoor League: Senior division: Hounslow 7, Old Loughtonians 10; Burbiton 4, East Grinstead 8; Hounslow 8, St Albans 3.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (play-): Buffalo Sabres 8, Boston Bruins 4; Washington Capitals 4, Detroit Red Wings 1 (OT); New York Islanders 3, New York Rangers 2; Philadelphia Flyers 4, Calgary Flames 3; Pittsburgh Penguins 5, New Jersey Devils 3; Toronto Maple Leafs 4, Quebec Nordiques 3 (OT); Minnesota North Stars 7, St Louis Blues 3; Edmonton Oilers 4, Los Angeles Kings 2.

RACKETS

HENDERSON NATIONAL LEAGUE: Radley names team: R Henman and O Everard; bt J Warren and P Ashe, 15-0, 18-13, 15-8, 8-15, 15-4; M Bland and H Bleacher bt A Duncan and M Atkinson, 15-10, 15-3, 7-15, 15-5, 15-7, 15-6.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Eton (A Smith-Bingham and J Larkan) bt Harrow (L Gandy and S Gulliebaud), 15-2, 15-3, 15-16, 15-2.

TABLE TENNIS

LEEDS: European women's league: Semi-final: England 3, Hungary 4 (English names first): A Gordon lost to G Worth, 14-21, 15-21; F Elliot lost to C Bellott, 18-21, 11-21; L Lomas bt R Urban, 21-11, 21-17; Lomas and A Pok bt Worth and Bellott, 21-13, 19-21, 21-19; Gordon lost to Bellott, 16-21, 14-21; Lomas lost to Worth, 21-13, 17-21, 14-21; Elliot bt Urban, 19-21, 21-16, 21-16.
TOKYO: Men's world circuit: Second event: Chinese Taipei: Kim Bong-hui (N Kor) bt A Grubba (Pol), 12-21, 21-10, 21-14; Yu Shenxong (China) bt T Yamamoto (Japan), 23-21, 21-13; P Haldan (Nwy) bt K Ikeuadi (Japan), 20-22, 21-15, 21-16; Ma Wenge (China) bt Wu Nam-kyu (S Kor) 19-21, 21-15, 21-17. Semi-finals: Kim bt Yu, 21-18, 21-23, 21-14; Ma bt Haldan, 21-7, 21-12. Final: Ma bt Kim, 21-14, 21-7, 21-14.

TENNIS

LA MANGA: Mother and Daughter championships: First round: S and L Cartwright (Lancashire) bt C Robson (Nottinghamshire) and P Goddard (Derbyshire), 6-3, 6-1; J and S Hayes (Dorset) bt C and N Bedtoch (Surrey), 7-5, 6-2; L and L Paterson (Sussex) bt L and J Gow (Norfolk), 6-0, 6-2. Father and Son championships: Quarter-finals: P and A Bretherton bt P and M Worrall, 6-1, 7-6; D and S Lloyd bt P and S Bentley, 6-2, 7-6; G and J Bamford bt W and D McDermott, 7-5, 6-2; R and P Ransom bt B and F Hammond, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.

● RACING 31
● CRICKET 32
● RUGBY UNION 33

SPORT

Mackay resigns after chairman's vote of confidence

By CHRIS MOORE

DAVE Mackay resigned as manager of Birmingham City yesterday, less than 24 hours after receiving a vote of confidence from Samesh Kumar, the chairman of the club.

The former Birmingham captain, Ian Atkins, the manager of Colchester United in the GM Vauxhall Conference, and Brian Little, the manager of Darlington, were immediately linked with the vacancy, as inevitably, was the club's most famous player, Trevor Francis.

Mackay's decision to quit came in the wake of the club's worst performance of the season last weekend, when they lost 3-0 at home to Cambridge United, leaving them with only four wins in their last 22 games in the third division.

Mackay said: "I'm very sad and disappointed because as I said when I came here, I thought it was a great opportunity to get back in the swing of things with a really big club.

"I wanted to make them successful again and we thought we were on the right track at the beginning of the season after getting off to a reasonably good start. But things have gone a bit askew since then and one or two things have happened just lately that persuaded me it was best if I go."

He denied he had bowed to pressure from the terraces. "The crowd having a go at me has never bothered me, but Saturday's result didn't help. It was a hard decision, but once I make up my mind about something, that is it.

"There are still 21 games to go and I told the players before I left that I still think they've got a great chance of getting in the promotion play-offs."

Kumar said he was "bitterly disappointed" to lose Mackay, who had previously been the manager of Derby County and Nottingham Forest. "The reason I believe he resigned is because he honestly thought it was for the good of the club. I just hope that whoever succeeds him gets a better backing from the supporters, because I don't believe that Dave Mackay was ever really given a fair chance here by our supporters at large.

"I am sure Trevor Francis's name will come up, but I am not about to appoint a manager for the sake of supporters' emotions. He would, of course, be given consideration should he choose to apply."

Bobby Ferguson will take temporary charge of the team until Mackay's successor is appointed.

To add to Birmingham's problems, Fred Davies, the youth and reserve team manager, also handed in his resignation yesterday to join John Bond at Shrewsbury.

Birmingham's plight is symptomatic of the steep decline in Midlands football, in which only the cup progress of Coventry City and Nottingham Forest has compensated for the League failings virtually across the board.

The focal point for success now is Forest's attempt to provide Brian Clough with his first FA Cup triumph. Forest's second third-round replay against Crystal Palace at the City Ground tonight, followed by the fourth round FA Cup-ties are likely to be the last opportunities for the region to retain the interest of its supporters.

Midlands supporters outside of Nottingham hope they get it right tonight. As a traditional power base of English football, which once housed nine first division clubs and produced numerous cup successes at home and in Europe, the Midlands is becoming almost a football backwater.

The decline of Wolverhampton Wanderers, West Bromwich Albion, Birmingham, Notts County and Stoke City during the 1980s, has been followed by a slide down the League table by Aston Villa, Coventry City, Derby County and Forest.

To continue the depressing trend, Walsall and Northampton Town went into the fourth division, Birmingham City and Stoke City into the third, and Leicester City have been struggling to avoid a similar fate, while Shrewsbury Town face possible relegation to the fourth.

This season's cup competitions have brought only occasional relief. Coventry, Notts County, Port Vale and Shrewsbury are still involved in the fourth round of the FA Cup on Saturday.

McEnroe follows in the footsteps



Carrying the torch: Patrick McEnroe battles past Caratti to earn a place in a familiar sounding semi-final line-up at the Australian Open. McEnroe, the younger brother of John, meets Becker and Lendl plays Edberg. Report, page 32

Gower brought back to earth by £1,000 fine

From ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, ADELAIDE

DAVID Gower's steadfast refusal to take himself or his calling as seriously as some deem desirable was bruised but unbroken yesterday after he and John Morris were fined £1,000 for a sky-lark during the match against Queensland. Surveying the damage to his pocket, if not his reputation, from a disciplinary measure which fell only one count short of being suspended or sent home in disgrace, Gower said: "It's just the way I am. Not everyone understands that."

Gower and his partner-in-pranks, John Morris, were fined by the England tour management for what was considered "immature, ill-judged and ill-timed" behaviour on Monday, when they hired vintage Tiger Moth aircraft, and their pilots, to fly low over the Gold Coast ground where the match against Queensland was in progress.

Two things caused the management particular offence. These were that, with the joke over, the players returned again to the airfield to pose for photographs; and that Gower, a former captain with vast experience, should involve a young player, on his first tour, in what was undoubtedly a case of outrageous high spirits.

It is felt, perhaps especially by Graham Gooch, the embattled captain, that Gower has let everyone down. This, more than anything, explains the severity of the sentence when compared with the relatively trifling fines which, I understand, were meted out to various players for cricket-orientated misdemeanours earlier in the tour.

If it seems a disproportionate, even draconian measure for what Peter Lush, the tour manager, concedes as being simply a prank, then maybe righteous indignation had something to do with it. Nothing could be more embarrassing for a manager than to hear from elsewhere that players he believed to be going about their normal match-day business were in fact not only absent but airborne without leave.

Lush has worn his grimmest face these past few days, and one senses his job has lost its appeal. If he took an unconscionable time to decide on his verdict, and considered a still stiffer penalty for Gower, he was unusually stern once his mind was made up.

He confirmed that it was the maximum financial penalty available to him and, far from the inappropriate coyness with which he has kept previous fines private, he was candid in his opinions. The photographs, he said, had "detracted from a good, solid performance by the England team".

"Gower, he said, "failed to set the appropriate example and consequently one of his younger colleagues has suffered". The conclusion is plainly that Gower is regarded as the villain of the piece, Morris only as gullible.

Optimistically, Lush advised the two players to remain silent and allow the affair to die. Predictably, Gower was not deterred from saying his piece. He seldom is. Rules, to this incurably incorrigible man, are different, if indeed he acknowledges them at all in his advanced state of liberalism, verging now on the fatalistic.

He said of his fine: "It's certainly more expensive than flying from Brisbane to Adelaide," just the sort of glib remark which endears him to some and outrages others. He added that he had no real regrets and was not surprised to be fined. "But if I had known what the fine would be it might have made me think a bit more . . ."

Gower admits that his manager "might have a point" in denouncing the escapade as "ill-judged". He also felt that there were grounds for thinking Morris should have suffered a lesser fine. "I hope it won't be held against him," he said. "My situation is a bit different from his."

By this, he meant that Morris has a future to lose: Gower has few ambitions in the game once this tour is over. He has been everywhere, done almost everything the game has to offer, and the regimentation of it all increasingly irritates him.

Tomorrow, here in Adelaide, he needs only 94 runs to surpass Geoffrey Boycott as the highest-scoring Englishman in Test history. The timing is delicious. Imagine Boycott flying a Tiger Moth with history beckoning . . .

Gower is a flawed genius, much the most attractive form of the breed. But no matter his eminence and his eccentric energies, he must know that he cannot be seen to be above the team, above jurisdiction. Yesterday's events have proved it, and Gower's response may be the most compulsive viewing of the coming Test Match.

Gower on the brink, page 32

Palace ignore Forest's edge

By LOUISE TAYLOR

CRYSTAL Palace and Nottingham Forest must be sick of the sight of each other. The latest instalment tonight of their protracted FA Cup third-round tie is a second replay, which follows two postponements and a first division match which ended in a draw earlier in the season.

Meeting at the City Ground, it would be easy to assume that the home advantage for Forest means a psychological edge. Yet after Palace, the losing finalists to Manchester United last year, salvaged the first replay at the City Ground on Monday with an opportunist goal from 45 yards, by John Salako, in the final minute of extra time, that is debatable.

The FA Cup represents both teams' sole hope of collecting a big honour this season, and neither is prepared to abandon its ambitions without a fight.

"We are not going to give it up easily," Salako said. "My goal on Monday proved that anything can happen – that is part of the romance of the Cup."

Ron Fenton, the Forest assistant manager, said: "In the dressing room the heads went down on Monday night. We found it incredibly hard to believe we had to do it all over again. But the bonus is that three players, Stuart Pearce, Steve Hodge, and Terry Wilson, who have all had injury problems, will be fit.

"You can see why Palace continue to have such a successful run. They may not be the most skilful side, but they more than make up for it by the way they work for one another."

With the teams relying on contrasting routes to goal – Forest travelling through the midfield, and Palace round or over it – the episode tonight is anything but predictable.

Newcastle United are poised to pay the second highest transfer fee for a non-League player when they sign Andy Hunt, a forward from Kettering Town, for £150,000. That is £25,000 short of the £175,000 which Barnsley invested in Phil Gridelet, from Barnet, in September.

George Forbes, the Newcastle chairman, said that the signing represented part of the "long term planning" of the club. Hunt will be unavailable for Newcastle's fourth-round FA Cup tie on Monday because he has played in the competition for Kettering this season.

Gridelet has started only two senior games for Barnsley and is understood to be contemplating a return to Barnet for around £100,000.

Leeds United have been drawn against **Manchester City** in the north semi-final of the Zenith Data Systems Cup.

FULL DRAW: North: Barnsley or Nottingham Forest v Everton; Leeds v Manchester City. South: Brighton or Crystal Palace v Chelsea or Luton; Norwich or Southampton v Ipswich.

Allan recalled as Scotland seek a sharper approach

By ALAN LORIMER

SCOTLAND: G Hastings (Watsonians); A G Stanger (Hawick), S Hastings (Watsonians), S R P Lineen (Boroughmuir), A Moore (Edinburgh Academicals); C M Chalmers (Melrose), G Armstrong (Jed-Forest); D M B Sole (Edinburgh Academicals, capt), J Allan (Edinburgh Academicals), A P Burnell (London Scottish), D J Turnbull (Hawick), C A Gray (Nottingham), D F Cronin (Bath), J Jeffrey (Kelso), D B White (London Scottish). Replacements: P W Dods (Gala), D S Wyllie (Stewart's-Melville), G H Oliver (Hawick), G R Marshall (Selkirk), D F Milne (Heriot's), K S Milne (Heriot's). Referee: D J Bishop (New Zealand).

SCOTLAND'S rugby union selectors have reacted to their team's defeat in Paris last Saturday by dropping the hooker, Ken Milne, and bringing back John Allan, of Edinburgh Academicals, for the Royal Bank international against Wales at Murrayfield a week on Saturday.

Allan, aged 27, won his one previous cap in the first international against New Zealand at Dunedin last June, but was subsequently supplanted by Milne for the Auckland international and the Heriot's hooker remained in favour for the match against Argentina at Murrayfield in November when he scored two of Scotland's tries.

Milne is being blamed for Scotland's poor lineout performance against France but that, according to Duncan Paterson the chairman of selectors, was "just one of the factors taken into consideration. Perhaps the most important one is Allan's sharpness about the field. The fact that he plays regularly alongside David Sole was another important consideration in his selection."

Allan, who returned to his native Scotland at the beginning of last season, lived in Glasgow with his Scottish parents until the age of eight when the family emigrated to South Africa. There he played much of his early rugby as a full back before switching to hooker, a move which ultimately led to selection for the Natal team.

This season he had an impressive game against Spain, particularly in the loose where his speed about the field was a strong feature.

Where he has yet to convince sceptics is in his technical ability as a striker; he has always come off worse in confrontations with his rivals, most recently against Milne in the trial match. Allan is half a stone lighter than Milne and this was, apparently, an important consideration when Milne won selection for the second international in New Zealand.

Although the hooker position is the only alteration to the team, Paterson said during yesterday's team announcement at Murrayfield: "We considered other changes; several players are perhaps fortunate to get another chance."

The lineout jumpers, particularly Damian Cronin, must come into this category, but the selectors have resisted the temptation to pick the more rangy Doddie Weir.

In a direct reference to the preparedness of several of the players Paterson said: "We were disappointed in the commitment of some of the team, particularly in their mental and physical approach to the game – they did not come up to our standard."

Paterson conceded, however, that his committee had hoped that some of the players who had just returned form injury would have been fitter. "Five or six players in the side have missed far too much rugby," he said.

Speaking in a broader context Paterson criticised the lack of transfer of experience following the New Zealand tour. "Players who were on the tour have not been able to raise standards in club rugby. We are looking at all aspects of raising levels in Scotland."

Wales will announce their team tomorrow but are not expected to make changes.

Reilly waits for appeal

THE Great Britain rugby league coach, Malcolm Reilly, may have to make a late change to his squad to meet France in Perpignan on Sunday after a disciplinary hearing involving the Hull front row forward, Karl Harrison (Keith Macklin writes).

Harrison, who was selected to meet the French at the weekend by Reilly, was yesterday suspended for four matches at a disciplinary committee hearing after he was sent off in a match with Bradford Northern.

The ban would rule Harrison out of the international fixture, but the Hull player has decided to appeal against the punishment, and his plea is to be heard at 10am this morning. If he is successful, he could yet join the squad.

Rochdale Hornets, whose coach, Allan Agar, resigned earlier this week, have appointed Brian Juliff, the former Wakefield Trinity and Wigan forward, as their caretaker-coach.

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Secker & Warburg

Barcelona blossoms under the Olympic dream

From DAVID MILLER
IN BARCELONA

COMMENT

TALK of dreams tends to be used as loose-change, cliché terminology within the Olympic movement. Here, in the beautiful Mediterranean sea-port – *Barcino* of Roman times, *Bardjalino* under eighth century Muslim captivity – a genuine dream is taking place that rivals anything in the development of a host city during a century of the Olympic Games.

Few cities are more elegant than this capital of historic Catalonian separatism. Few cities, if any, have experienced the regeneration, the structural face-lift and cultural stimulus that is transforming Barcelona in preparation for the summer of 1992, the 500th anniversary of Columbus's search for a western passage to India.

No such alteration could have taken place, for example, in Paris, a rival candidate for these Games, nor could they in London. Seoul, and the international politics of South Korea, was indelibly altered in 1988, but Seoul was emerging from total destruction 40 years before.

If it is the intention for an Olympics to benefit the local population as well as the competitors, then Barcelona epitomises the principle.

The cost-budget of the organising committee is something over £600 million, of which a quarter is on the establishment of permanent facilities and landscaping at three sports centres, primarily of Mont Juic – Jewish Mount – which dominates the sea front beside the harbour and is the site of the new swimming complex and the elevated main stadium – handsomely renovated, pre-war and mock-Roman. An additional £4 million has been spent to rectify flooding problems experienced in the 1989 athletics World Cup.

Projected income, including £250 million from broadcasting rights, will exceed costs by less than one per cent: these are not profit-making Games. Yet the most ambitious project, part of £2 billion of public money being spent, to popular acclaim, by the Socialist local government, is the creation of effectively a new city to the north of the harbour, including a housing development that will temporarily be the Olympic village.

Under the direction of Pasqual Maragall, the Socialist mayor and son of Spain's most famous modern poet, the first Spanish railway line that ran along the shore to Mataro is being redirected in a loop through the back of the city. Wretched, run-down tenaments, factories and an old gas works have fallen to the bulldozers, to be replaced by sculptured housing of no more than six storeys.

A submerged motorway, surrounded on either side by parkland and leisure facilities, follows the old rail route. New, golden beaches, created with dredged sand, replace scum-traps. The water is alive with fish. A hidden submarine breakwater, parallel to the shore, disolves storm-waves. The Olympic athletes, and future residents, besides an unobstructed view of the sea, will have their own private beach.

The only two tower buildings, on the promenade from seawards, form a gateway to the avenida that leads to Gaudi's famous, unfinished cathedral. Below the gate sits the new yacht marina, a future public facility.

Gone are old warehouses that disfigured the quay between the harbour and picturesque Barceloneta, where some of the Mediterranean's friendliest cafés, nestling by the beach and run by families of 15, never seem to close.

Everywhere, the first foundations of new buildings and roads were not bricks but, four years ago, the palm trees, olives and firs that will be in leaf by next year. Out of sight is a labyrinth of new sewers, and hundreds of kilometres of modern gas, electricity and telephone galleries. A Scandinavian suction-tube system will remove rubbish from the Olympic village overnight without the wakening clatter of refuse-trucks.

Barcelona is for working day and night to be ready not for July next year but by New Year's Day, so that Josep-Miquel Abad, the chief executive officer of the Games, may that day be given the key to the village. Looking at the mud and confusion that still exists today, it is hard to believe that all will be done. Here is the first race of these Olympics; but Abad claims his committee, and the city, will triumph.

Twenty different Olympic sports will stage international testing events – of facilities and of personnel – during 1991, largely at the same time as the Games are scheduled in July and August. There has been much pessimism – initially from Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the IOC and a city native, and from private business, which helped Maragall win the bid – about whether the city will indeed by ready.

There has been an acute shortage of five-star hotels; and Maragall, abandoning the assistance and advice of the private sector, has prodominately promoted loyal political henchmen. The hotel crisis has been solved by the use of 11 cruise-liners in the harbour for prime sponsor clients, who provide almost a quarter of the income cake.

Some proposed hotels are still holes in the ground. "If they are ready, that will be a bonus," Abad insisted. Yet other planning seems to be extremely professional. Security and anti-terrorist forces are combining with intelligence units around the world: yet the visible police are being schooled, at the Avila headquarters outside Madrid, to recognise that the Games belong firstly to the people.

The main event centres – Mont Juic, the Diagonal (around the Nou Camp football stadium area) and Vall D'Hebron (archery, volleyball, cycling, tennis) – are within four to nine miles of the village, 30 minutes or less in travelling time. All new facilities will subsequently be public, not private.

The conception for the Olympics of Barcelona is perhaps that parallel – a gift to the people as well as to temporary Olympic guests. In less than a month, 250,000 people have visited the city centre exhibition that explains, minutely with diagram, photographs and video, what is happening to their city, above and below ground. They are fascinated. I have stood here, viewing the city from the panoramic new diving pool on the open cliff face of Mont Juic, thrilled with expectation. And it is not even my home.

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